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MOTHERS DAUGHTERS

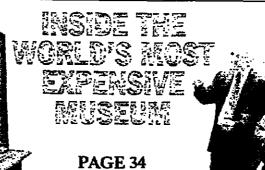
Celia Brayfield on Paula Yates



CURE THAT HANGOVER Dr Stuttaford's

medicine chest

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Grown-ups behaving badly at Christmas



Retaliation for safety check delay

Britain puts health ban on EU beef

By Charles Bremner, Philip Webster and Michael Hornsby

BRITAIN plunged into a new confrontation with Europe over beef yesterday when Jack Cunningham imposed a unilateral ban on imports that do not meet the safety standards required of British meat.

The Agriculture Minister announced his decision after the EU voted 14-1 to delay the introduction of such checks throughout the Community until next April.

In language reminiscent of John Major's "beef war" in the summer of 1996, he attacked 'fraudulent" arguments being put forward in Brussels and claimed that his EU counterparts had "prevaricated and obfuscated to avoid new anti-BSE health controls.

There were legal doubts over Britain's move last night. and suspicions in Brussels that Dr Cunningham was seeking to distract attention from his ban on the sale of beef on the bone, which came into force at midnight in spite of protests and demonstrations by farmers, butchers and consumers. No other European state has imposed such a

restriction. It was clear also that the impact of his gesture would be limited. Meat from Ireland, the main importer to Britain with 54,000 tonnes last year, France and The Netherlands already conforms to the planned code on the removal of the brain, spinal cord and eyes from cattle, sheep and goats. However, there was an obvious risk of the "war" being resumed, with the possibility of action against Britain

in the European Court. The strongest objection to the new British rules could be expected from Germany. which claims that it has no BSE and so its producers should not be burdened with processing

requirements.
The European Commission sought the delay in the slaughterhouse code - agreed last July and due to come into



Me? They found a rib of beef in the bottom of my suitcase"

effect on January 1 - after opposition from Germany and half a dozen other EU states. as well as the United States, whose pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries are affected. Last Saturday the Americans extended their own ban of European beef imports in what Brussels saw as retaliation for the proposed meat

A unilateral ban on beef imports would certainly breach EU rules covering the single market, as Dr Cumingham accepted. "I cannot ban imports of beef - though I think farmers would like me to - that would be a matter that would have me straight into the European Court," he said. "But I can insist that it can only come in if it has had the specified risk materials removed and been treated the

That approach would break no rules, he said, because he was demanding only that meat sold in the shops should be subject to uniform safety checks The Commission said it would form an opinion after considering the proposed ban

same as British beef."

Dr Cunningham added: "I believe that people who have been opposed to the original decision have just been pre-varicating and obfuscating

and delaying. I am going to implement it unilaterally on behalf of the United Kingdom to make sure beef coming in is as safe as the beef we have at home. I can't believe that it is good for the reputation of the Commission or the EU that a decision properly taken in July has got to the point where it has failed to be implemented

six months later." He rejected the claims of eight nations that they did not need such measures because they had not suffered from BSE. If the EU were to operate a single market in beef, the same rules and regulations

had to apply throughout.
There is a single market in beef, it is traded around that single market and there is no guarantee that beef coming from any country in the EU is beef that has been raise in that country. You can purchase beef in one country where BSE exists and wholesale it from another country where BSE doesn't exist. So it is a completely fraudulent argument est that somehow that provides a safeguard. It doesn't provide any safeguard

at all." Last year Britain imported 150,000 tonnes of beef worth £363 million from all sources. of which 93 100 tonnes came from the rest of the European Union, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission.

The Ministry of Agriculture said last night that all non-EU suppliers, with the exception of New Zealand and Australia, would have to comply with the new regulations if their meat was to marketable in Britain. Australia and New Zealand are considered to pose no threat from either BSE or scrapie, the related sheep disease.

An aid package for hill farmers affected by the BSE crisis is expected to be announced later this week.

Sales ban, page 4 Letters, page 19



Downing Street rib joint ends in bin

By Adrian Lee

A 151b rib of beef was delivered day - and was destined to go straight into the dustbin.

The joint was taken to the doors of No 10 in protest at the ban on the sale of beef on the bone, which took effect at midnight. The National Cattle Association said it wanted the Prime Minister could experience the "excellence of the product" first hand and

handed it to a policeman. It was taken inside, but a Downing Street spokesman said that it would be thrown away, in line with government advice that it was not safe to eat. "Obviously this is part of a publicity campaign by farmers and they are perfectly entitled to make their case. But clearly the beef on the bone cannot be eaten and it will be

The demonstration outside No 10 was one of a series of protests and rallies opposing the ban, while customers were

rushing to buy T-bone steaks,

well celebrations to traditional favourites. At Butchers' Hall, near Smithfield meat market, about 100 guests of the City Farewell Dinner

for the Roast Beef of Olde England

Oxtail Soup with Chestnuts

Roast Baron of Beef on the bone Horseradish Relish Pommes Boulangère (with Beef Stock)
Mélange of Beans

Treacle Pudding with Traditional Custard Croque Cunningham

Rich Roast Arabica Coffee & Sweetmeats

The final night's menu

ribs and oxtails before the caterers Chester Boyd feasted And last night pubs and beef washed down with bullstaurants held defiant fare- shot, a drink made from vodka and beef consomme.

At Westminster, butchers in

working aprons paraded with a forerib of beel outside the House of Commons and presented the Conservative MP Bill Cash with a petition signed by 106,000 members of the public requesting that they be allowed to make up their own minds. To get so many signatures in just four days shows that the public is overwhelmingly against this ban, which was a kneejerk, panic measure," Mr Cash said. "The British public do not want a nanny state telling them what to eat."

Trading standards officers have also written to the Government complaining that the new law is confusing and could be impossible to enforce. and a black market is expected to flourish.

Gordon Gresty, head of trading standards in North Yorkshire, expected butchers

with regular customers in Mountnessing, Essex, reporton extail soup and baron of small communities to flout the ed that customers had been ban. "It is going to be extreme-stockpiling beef. Mr Hepburn ly difficult certain we will see under-thecounter deals which will be virtually impossible to stop."

Bob Dove, a butchers in Battersea, southwest London, also believed that a black market might thrive, but said: "I suspect the Government will soon stop us buying beef on the bone if they suspect butchers of breaking the law." That would play into the and send scores of independent butchers under.

Both Mr Dove and Danny Hepburn, a butcher from this. One man came in at the weekend and filled his boot with foreribs and oxtail. I have sold more oxtails in the last week than I would normally

sell in a year." By last night, however, most restaurants had reluctantly removed beef on the bone from their menus. Michel Bourdin, head chef at the Connaught Grill in London. said he felt like committing suicide, but added: "I will adapt, what can I do? I don't want to go to jail for trying to save British gastronomy.

Stubby Kaye dies aged 79

Stubby Kaye, the chubby comic who rose to stardom with his performances as Nicely-Nicely Johnson in the stage and film versions of Guys and Dolls, has died, aged 79, at his home in California.

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South set for the big freeze

MUCH of Britain will today experience the coldest day of winter yet with weather fore-

casters warning of below

freezing conditions and snow flurries in some areas. The coldest temperatures are expected in southern England as icy winds spread in from eastern Europe. Temperatures in Moscow plum-

meted to -27C yesterday. A London Weather Centre spokesman said last night that everywhere across the South East would struggle to stay above zero today.

There will be some flurries of snow today but we are not expecting any significant falls. We should see the odd dusting. It is possible some areas will get a little bit more,"

he said. The spokesman said temperatures nationwide ranged between 4C and 6C yesterday with the coldest day of winter which officially began on December 1 on the meteorological calendar — set to arrive in most areas today.

He said it was too early to predict which areas could expect a white Christmas, with most of the country returning to temperatures nearer normal by the end of the week.

'CJD' blood products given to 3,000 patients

BY AUDREY MAGEE AND IAN MURRAY

UP TO 3,000 people treated in 100 British hospitals may have been injected with blood produces taken from a donor who died six weeks ago from new variant Creuzfeldt-Jakob Disease, the human form of BSE. None of them is to be told because the Health Department believes the risk of them developing the disease is so

slight that there is no reason to cause alarm. Although hospitals have been advised to return the product, used in X-ray screenings to detect lung disease, so far only 15 per cent has

been recovered. There is no order obliging hospitals to return it and some clinicians may go on using up stocks on the basis that patients are far more likely to die from infections or cancer that can be diagnosed with the product than from CJD.

Another 268 patients in Ireland are known to have been given injections from the same batch of the product. The Irish Health Ministry has decided to notify all the patients concerned. Even though the identity of all those who have been given

an injection of the product is

known, it was decided not to

tell them because there is no

evidence that the illness can be

or the serum derived from it to make the product and the risk of developing CID is regarded as negligible.

"You are putting an enormous burden on people by telling them they have a remote risk of contracting the disease," the department said last night. The ethics committee which advises us on these matters decided it was just not appropriate to tell them." A blood transfusion service

spokesman said: "There is no test for CJD or treatment so what would you say to people? They should not be informed because you are likely to cause a lot of unnecessary anxiety."

The blood from the donor was sent 18 months ago to the National Blood Transfusion Service laboratory, where it was split into a number of different products. The donor's plasma was mixed with some taken from 49,000 other donors to make 8,174 bottles of albumin, the water-soluble protein found in blood.

Many were exported but 210 of the 50ml bottles remained in Britain and were sent to eight different hospitals and companies. Some of the bottles were used intravenously to rehydrate burn victims. One bottle was sent to Nycomed Amersham which

of Amerscan Pulmonate II, an agent which is injected into the lungs so that infections and cancer show up under X-Ray. The company sent almost 3,700 vials to 100 British

hospitals between July and

November. The rest was exported to about 40 different At the end of October the European Committee on Proprietary Medicinal Products issued new guidelines requiring the withdrawal of blood products derived from donors who were confirmed CJD

Despite regular alarms. there has never been any convincing evidence that blood or blood products can transmit CJD (Nigel Hawkes writes). Unless new variant CID, the human form of "mad cow" disease, is more easily transmitted than classic CJD via blood or blood products. there does not appear to be any cause for concern.

For classic CJD the risk seems negligible. About 50 people a year die of the disease, so it is certain that every year some of them give blood after they have the infection but before its symptoms appear. Studies show that classic CID can be passed on in human tissue, but not used it to produce 14,000 vials

RAF to retrieve Branson balloon

A Royal Air Force Hercules crew has been drafted in to retrieve Richard Branson's stranded balloon in Algeria. The bailoon, which broke its moorings last week just before the Virgin chief's latest attempt to circumnavigate the globe, will be picked up by the RAF crew today and taken to the Branson team base in Morocco. Mr Branson will

Yard condemned over murder case

Scotland Yard's inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence, the black teenager, was flawed by "significant weaknesses, omissions and lost opportunities" according to a scathing report published by the Police Complaints Auth-

The report was drawn up after Mr Lawrence's parents complained about the way the case was handled...... Page 9

80 are killed in desert air crash

An airliner carrying 86 people crashed in the desert yesterday nine miles from Sharjah airport in the United Arab Emirates, killing at least 80 people. The Tupoley aircraft was en route from Tajikistan to Sharjah. Security men at the ground where England were playing Pakistan were

L'EAU D'ISSEY

Icy chill pushes aside memories of summer

week it is an Indian summer; then another planet: a year during wou open a window and the season which goodwill had ebbed slowly you open a window and the season

Watching Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, knocked about at the dispatch box during questions yesterday, we seemed to see a political summer fled as fast. A fortnight ago the Commons scene looked set fair for the Government. Every question time was the same. Tories asked rude or silly questions. Ministers ignored them. Labour backbenchers asked poodling questions, then rolled

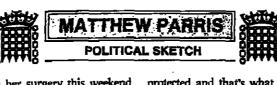
Returning to the gallery yester-

onto their backs to have their

away and the Government's credit with its backbenches had gradually been spent. There was a sharpness in the air. Parliament had regained its edge. It was not the same place as we left last Wednesday.

Here is Lynne Jones (Lab, Selly Oak), who asked sarcastically whether ministers thought a weekly payment of £77 to lone mothers was adequate. "What confidence can people have in the Prime Munister's weekend statement about looking after those in need?"

Here is Llew Smith (Lab, Blaenau Gwent), who asked Ms



visiting her surgery this weekend urged her to stick to Tory spending cuts?" Diane Abbott (Lab, Hackney N and Stoke Newington) cast doubt on whether Ms Harman's "new deal" for lone parents was actually getting more into work.

Here is David Winnick (Lab. Walsall N) insisting, with a wry glance at his front bench, that he way" that the Government might self out on the disabled. The Prime Minister says the disabled will be protected and that's what Labour MPs want. She [Ms Harman] should bear in mind not just Treasury ministers."

These are known leftwingers. What is new is not their views, but a willingness now to lift a more (or less) tentative snout above ground and express them. Dennis Skinner (Lab. Bolsover) even took a kick at Ms Harman's scary Minister of State, Frank Field, instead of the easier target presented by the Secretary of State herself. Old

cle in a matter of days. Less showy, but as interesting,

was the worried silence of most loyal backbenchers and the obvious hunger for reassurance of those who spoke. Harman was ill-supported and the cheers were ragged. As a debater Ms Harman seems incapable of meshing with anything but a repetition of her own opinions. On each new occasion she takes refuge in a new catchphrase. Last time it was "restructuring welfare around the work ethic". Yesterday people did not want to be "written off to a life of dependence on benefits" - as though anyone had suggested they

did. Questions are simply ignored

met with a tin-voiced repetition of the day's manura.

Frank Field does not ignore questions. When Professor Steven Webb, the Liberal Democrat spokesman, is called to put a question, Skinner is wont to shout "this 'ad better be good", and yesterday Webb was good. Tony Blair, he said, had promised to protect the benefits of disabled people in need. Did Mr Field think

any were not in need?
"If he [Webb] thinks they are all equally entitled," replied Field coolly, "his constituents must be different from mine."

in a wokful of tofu from Ms Harman, a shard of flint from Mr Field can break your teeth.

and was given the new drug Tacrolimus at South Cleveland Hospital. She died in her father's

arms on August 11, after being transferred to King's College Hospital in south London.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Girl died

after fax

error at

hospital

A girl aged 5 died because her medical records were

sent to a fax machine in a

locked room to which no

one had access over a

weekend. Doctors, an-

aware of her medical hist-

ory, gave her a massive overdese of drugs, South-

from Crawley, Sussex, who suffered from giant cell heptatitis, fell ill on a visit to Middlesbrough,

Noorjehan Khan, 5.

wark Coroner said.

Airport alert

More than 1,000 passengers were evacuated from Heathrow's Terminal One after a second fire alert within three days. It turned out to be a false alarm and passengers were allowed back within 20 minutes. Flights were not delayed. There was disruption on Friday after fire broke out in a

Inquiry widens

Police investigating allegations of widespread child abuse at six residential care homes in South Wales have extended their inquiry to include a fur-ther 27 homes. The move follows an appeal for information from former residents of homes in the region. As a result officers have received a further 250 daims of abuse.

Bonus barred

scheme for prisoners has been dropped after com-plaints that offenders were receiving the same amount of cash as pensioners. Inmates at Walton jail in Liverpool will be allowed to spend an extra £10 from their own money rather than receive the bonus from prison shop profits.

Silent Duchess

A busy schedule is reported to have obliged the Duchess of York to turn down a cameo role in a Broadway musical. The Duchess had been invited to appear in a production of Jekyll and Hyde along-side her friend Linda Eder. The producers had offered to write a part for the duchess and a special

Artist in court

The sculptor Anthony Kelly, cousin of the Duke of Norfolk and a favourite artist of the Prince of Wales, is to stand trial next month for allegedly stealing human body parts for use in works of art. Mr Kelly and Niel Kelly are charged with taking anatomical parts from the Royal College of Surgeons.

Saab reverses

family-run business selling Indian food has won a legal battle against the Swedish car manufac-turer Saab over the name of its pickles and spices. Saab has dropped its objection to the Boltonbased House of Raja using the name Memsaab. It had claimed the name was too similar to its own trademark.

Hague takes traditional route to altar

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

WILLIAM HAGUE and Ffion Jenkins, who have been living together since July, will revert to tradition on the eve of their wedding day and spend the

night apart.
The Tory leader will savour the last moments of bachelorhood on Thursday night with Sebastian Coe, the double Olympic gold medallist, who is his chief of staff.

Wine and beer will be flowing until the early hours at Mr Coe's Surrey home as Mr Hague, 36, puts the finishing touches to the most nervewracking speech of his life after the ceremony at the Gothic chapel of St Mary Undercroft at the Palace of Westminster.

Miss Jenkins, 29, who will spend the evening at a family dinner, has also adhered to convention. She has denied her husband a glimpse of her wedding dress. Mr Hague has not even been told where she bought it. Only a handful of close friends and family are in the know.

The bride's elder sister, Manon Williams, 32, who is the assistant private secretary to the Prince of Wales, will be the only bridesmaid. There was speculation last night that the eve-of-wedding family dinner would be held in Dr apartment at Kensington

"They are both great believers in the traditions of marriage. They will not be together the night before and Willam will not see the dress until Ffion walks into the chapel," a Tory official said last night.

They have not always been so conformist. The youngest Tory leader for 200 years became the first to live openly with an unmarried woman when they moved into his

rented flat. The couple have since taken a bigger apartment in the same complex in London. It will be their marital home during the week.

At the party conference in Blackpool Mr Hague had his first disagreement with Bar-

Leading article.

oness Thatcher, who helped him to secure the leadership. when he shared a suite with his fiancee. The former Prime Minister was critical of his

This is different. You get married only once. They both wanted to do it the right way. I think you will find most brides like to be with their Mum the night before," one of Mr

Hague's friends said. Details of the order of service were being withheld Miss Jenkins has decided not to promise to obey her future husband.

He, however, is already



The happy pair: William Hague and Ffion Jenkins will revert to tradition before their wedding day

obeying the Oxford-educated graduate: he has agreed not to work on Sundays other than in exceptional circumstances and to take one weekend off

Miss Jenkins has agreed to take Mr Hague's name but will continue to use her maiden name as operations director for the Association for British Sponsorship of the

Only five MPs will be among the 170 guests in the crypt when the couple pledge their vows in English and

It was her knowledge of Welsh which kindled the spark of romance when she taught him to sing the National Anthem in her mother tongue when he was Welsh

Secretary two years ago.
Three of the MPs, Alan Duncan, his political private secretary, Mr Coe, and David Lidington, his parliamentary aide, will act as ushers along with Nick Geeve, a school-

The others are Julie Kirkbride, the MP for Bromsgrove, and her husband Andrew Mackay, the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary. The last time they set foot in the chapel was at the end of July for a blessing of their

The reception is being held at the Speaker's House and the next day the couple will hold a party for the bride's family and friends in Wales before they go on honeymoon.

The location is one of politics worst kept secrets: they will stay at a series of romantic settings in India and are expected to visit the Taj Mahal, one of the world's most enduring monuments to

ing in. Each member of the Shadow Cabinet is donating £50 for a gift. The remainder of the 164 Tory MPs gave £10 for their own present.

The latest request for a gift list is from the Conservatives Abroad branch in Pathos, Cyprus. They can choose between fish knives or tea



Anger after trawler bodies are finally brought home

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

THE families of the crew of the trawler Sapphire, finally bodies of their loved ones, said yesterday that Tony Blair and his government ministers should hang their heads in shame for refusing to provide financial help for the recovery

operation. Just hours after four bodies found on the vessel, which sank in storms off Peterhead. Grampian. 76 days ago, had been formally identified, Wilma Cameron, mother of one of the victims, said: "We have prayed for this, to get our loved ones home. Now we do know that when you do pray you do get answers." The families have yet to decide whether to hold a joint funeral for the four men.

Widows Shirley Stephen, 24, Isobel Podlesny, 45, Patricia Stephen. 32, and Mrs Cameron, 58, paid tribute to the public for helping to raise Tony Blair should hang his head in shame over government failure

to help us, say Sapphire families

the £500,000 needed to pay for the recovery operation.

The women set up the Sapphire Trust and launched a public appeal for funds after Glenda Jackson, the Government's shipping minister, re-fused to help. Most of the money for the recovery was raised within three days.

Mrs Podlesny, whose husband Victor, died, said: "Glenda Jackson and Tony Blair can hang their heads in shame. I do hope they review the situation, so that if there is another tragedy no other family has to go through the agony that we have been through."

Mrs Stephen, speaking on the day her husband Robert would have celebrated his 26th birthday, said: "Never

underestimate the power of four women because what we have done we have done on our own and with Alex's (Salmond) help and proved Glenda Jackson wrong. All we ever wanted was the boys

home." The lifting operation, which had been repeatedly delayed for two months due to bad weather, was the first of its kind. The Sapphire sank within sight of its home port of Peterhead on October 1.

It was lying on its side on the seabed in 273 feet of water just 12 miles off-shore. On Sunday, after weeks of worry and anguish, hundreds of locals watched as the fishing boat finally returned home carried on the lifting wires of

Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish Nationalists, said it was an "extraordinary story of guts, resolution and determ-

ination by four families."

He said the women had been treated "shabbily" by the Government and he hoped the situation would now be reviewed so that other people did not find a "vacuum of responsibility were there should be help."

the Dutch floating crane barge

Tak Lift 7. It then took a

specialist team of police and

salvage experts three hours to

four men. Bruce Cameron, 32,

Victor Podlesny, 45, Adam

Stephen, 29, and Robert Ste-

phen, 25. Their bodies were in

the wheelhouse and

accomodation area. Only the skipper, Victor Robertson, 27,

had managed to survive after

escaping through the wheel-

house window. He was picked

up after spending 90 minutes

in a liferaft. He has since left

Ulster leaders fail in search for Christmas breakthrough

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

HOPES of a breakthrough before Christmas in the deadlocked Stormont talks were fading last night as two weeks of negotiations between party leaders drew to a close with no agreement on a future agenda. The leaders' working group was

intended to jumpstart the stalled talks. However, barring a lastminute surprise, it will be unable to deliver an agreed direction at today's last plenary session before the holiday. Sources predicted a facesaving paper to keep options open. "The prognostications are not good." said David Trimble, the

Ulster Unionist Party leader, whose

officials blamed Sinn Fein's for a lack of realism and the Irish Government for a reluctance to break with Gerry Adams's party. A Stormont source said: "We were hoping to start the real business in the new year, but now we'll be coming back to work out what that business should be." George Mitcheli, the American

talks chairman, proposed the working group this month to identify key issues and the best format for resolving them. Mr Trimble said that his party and the nationalist SDLP had agreed on a paper, but other parties had found it unacceptable. Unionists claimed that Sinn Fein had rejected anything that conceded the principle of consent or

Northern Ireland's right to exist. SDLP officials were still hoping for a breakthrough, but suggested that the Unionists were as much to blame, for opposing cross-border bodies. The UUP and Sinn Fein were "in denial", said one. A Sinn Fein spokesman denied his party was seeking to exclude any item. Mr Trimble also insisted he had

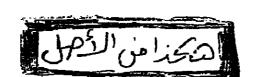
no plans to meet Mr Adams "this week, next week, next month" or in "the foreseeable future". In a weekend television interview, the UUP leader had not ruled out a face-toface meeting with the Sinn Fein president, but officials said that no such meeting was possible until Mr Adams had proved his commitment to peaceful, democratic methods.

A used Mercedes is no exception.

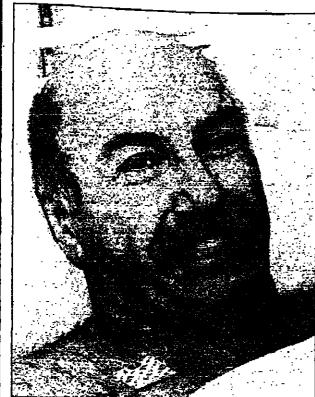
You'd expect to find a signature on a masterpiece.

A used Mercedes has a name to live up to and the only place you'll find one that Mercedes-Benz is happy to sign off is at an authorised dealership. Under the Signature scheme, every car is 'signed off' by the Mercedes-trained technicians who check it with a comprehensive multi-point check and by the Dealer Principal. What's more it also comes with certificates from independent bodies who investigate its mileage and history. So when you buy a used car from a Mercedes-Benz

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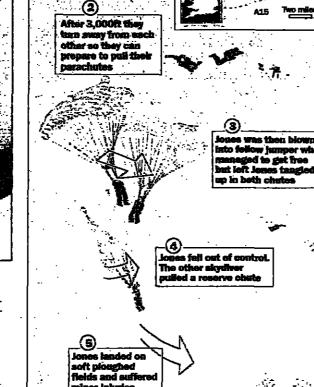
That hurt, says man who fell 2,000ft



Bren Jones yesterday: cannot wait to jump again

Mud, glorious mud, saves a grandfather from serious injury after parachute fails.

Paul Wilkinson reports



Bren Jones and others Jump from piene at 5,500ft



Dropping into trouble: how the parachute jump went wrong. Mr Jones, pictured in action, was described by his friends as "a devil-may-care sort of bloke"

THERE was only one certainty in the mind of a 56-year-old skydiver as he plunged 2,000ft with a failed parachute. Bren Jones thought: This is going to hurt."

Then he may have passed out. Moments later, he found himself lying in the soft mud of a rainsoaked field. As anxious friends approached, he sat up and started joking with them.

The parachuting fanatic, who has repeatedly claimed that his hobby is no more dangerous than crossing a road, had survived with no broken bones and no serious injuries. He was right about one thing: it certainly hurt.

Yesterday the grandfather was recovering in Lincoln County Hos-pital with a lot of bruising and a chipped bone in his back. Doctors are also morntoring pains in his legs. Experts think that the cushioning effect of the muddy ground

saved him after his canopy became entangled with another parachutist, sending him spiralling down out of control. He said that he could not wait to jump

Mr Jones, who runs a suspended-ceiling business in Leeds, said: "I didn't have time to think about whether I would live or die. I was more concerned with just trying to control the parachute. The ground just approached painfully fast. I just know the desired painfully fast. I control to the painfully fast. I just know the painfully fast. God it does.

"I can't remember hitting the ground. I'm just thankful I landed on soft, ploughed fields. I have extreme bruising which is giving me a lot of pain. This has not put me off parachuting and I will certainly be doing it again. It is a hobby which I enjoy and take seriously."

Priends describe Mr Jones as

just the sort of character to jump out of a plane and land safely without a parachute. Last Christmas, the veteran of 3,500 jumps joined an international group to sky-dive at the North Pole, and he celebrated his 50th birthday by parachuting into his back garden. He also does charity jumps and once took up a thalidomide sufferer so that she could experi-

ence the thrill of parachuting.

The divorced father of three grown-up children had jumped at 5,500ft on Sunday with members of the Target Skysports Club, linking hands with two of them. They fell more than 3,000ft, reaching a speed of about 120mph, before pulling their ripcords over Hibaldstow airfield, near Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, Mr Jones said: "The canopy opened fully, but there was a gust of wind and I got blown into another jumper

and our chutes became entangled. We had no control. He shouted that he was going to disengage his parachute and then he used his reserve chute to land.

"But I could not free his chute from mine and I could not disengage them and use my reserve. I was completely tangled up. The canopy kept opening and closing and just flapping around. It was no use at all. I have no idea how fast I was dropping, but it is not something I would like to experience again."

Trevor Dobson, the club's chief instructor, watched from the ground. He said: "It was unlucky, and rare, but there was nothing either jumper could do to stop it. The other jumper managed to jettison his chute and went back into free-fall before deploying his reserve. But Bren was left with two canopies still attached. His kept

inflating and deflating and he was totally out of control. Bren had the other chute tangled up with his, so he could not steer. It wasn't fully open, so he was falling faster than normal. His parachute was open but not fully, it was twisting around but still gave him some degree of support. He hit feet first,

then his backside hit the ground. We found him semi-conscious. He recognised me and was joking to us. He saw the air ambulance arrive and asked 'I'm not going to have to parachute into the hospital am I? Bren was lucky to escape with no more serious injury."

The British Parachute Association is investigating the incident. John Hitchin, the association's safety officer, said: "Mr Jones kept his nerve in a very trying situation. He may have blacked out before he hit the ground, but he seems to have deployed his reserve chute at

about 300ft." Mr Jones's girlfriend, Carol Day, said: "It is remarkable he didn't break any bones. All he needs now is a couple of days' rest. I got a call from the hospital saying there had been a 'bit of an incident'. Although he was on painkillers. he was still his

usual self, causing mayhem."

Mr Jones has been parachuting for 30 years, and has been a British Parachute Association instructor for 26 years. Heather Clark, 36, a programme production co-ordinator at Yorkshire-Tyne Tees TV, who has no arms and legs because of thalidomide, recalled how she had made a jump with him: "He's a very gentle man and was so nice. He even had a special harness made for me. It was once in a lifetime for me and Bren helped to make it.

"It was always something I had fancied doing, but I thought I about it."

wouldn't be able to because of my disability. Bren explained everything to me and put me at my ease.

Curtis Hall, 56, a friend, added: "He is a devil-may-care sort of bloke. His feelings on life are to live today because tomorrow you might be dead. He says you can get killed crossing the road as easily as you can parachute jumping. When he got into difficulty he would have kept cool, calm and collected. If there was anyone who could have got away with it, I would have put money on Bren being the man."

Resh Rall, who runs the newsagents near his home in Horsforth, Leeds, said: "He is a great man, a character and a half. He doesn't talk about his charity work. He would help anyone at any time. I bet that when he gets back here, he will saying nothing

Airline chief fights off 'Quality Street' raiders

By DANIEL McGrory and Tim Jones

line owner fought off two masked raiders who ambushed him inside his London

Police believe that Tony

Ryan, 61, the owner of Ryanair, is the latest victim of "Quality Street" gangs who scour society columns and Who's Who to select targets. He was punched and kicked to the floor by the men, who demanded that Mr Ryan revealed the combination number to his safe. The stockily

built, bespectacled entrepreneur refused to be cowed and began to fight the two men. He had been in the groundfloor flat for half an hour without knowing that the two thieves, said to be in their 20s. black and muscular, were also there. They grabbed him as he tried to leave. Minutes

earlier a woman companion had left the flat. A spokesman for Mr Ryan

A MULTIMILLIONAIRE air-line owner fought off two were inside the apartment. He thinks they could not open the safe so their last resort was to grab him. He was not going to give them the satisfaction of the combination number."

The men, who fled in an expensive car, did manage to grab £400 cash and jewellery. including a pearl necklace and diamond ring, brooch and

earrings.
Detective Constable Gareth John, who is leading the investigation, said: "He put up quite a struggle and the men left with their tails somewhat between their legs. They were young and very fit, but Mr Ryan is pretty fit too. I think they must have been surprised

at the fight he put up." Mr Ryan refused hospital treatment despite injuries to his face and ribs, and within hours had flown to Ireland to attend a charity function. Back in his Dublin office yesterday. Mr Ryan, who is



Rvan: refused to be intimidated by raiders

said to have a fortune in excess of £110 million, was reluctant to say more about his ordeal. A spokesman said: "He feels a bit embarrassed, and angry at being assaulted in his own home. He started to fight them off because he felt so indignant. He is not a great fitness fanatic but he is a very

healthy man for his age and is still an active farmer among his many other interests. He certainly would not care to be portrayed as some intrepid have a go hero', more a man trying to defend his home."

Mr Ryan, the oldest of four sons of a Tipperary train driver, founded GPA — the world's largest aircraft leasing company — in 1975 with a £50,000 stake. GPA ran into trouble after an attempt to float the group and Mr Ryan severed his links in 1994 to concentrate on his cut-price airline, Ryanair, which, after amassing sizeable debts, has become the market leader on the Irish Sea routes.

Police last night said they were investigating whether the description of Mr Ryan's assailants matched those responsible for other "Ouality Street" attacks. Their previous victims have included Michael Green, the Carlton TV chief, Lord Mishcon, the lawyer. and Bernie Ecclestone, the Formula One magnate.



Postal bride returns to sender

BY PETER FOSTER

THE marriage of a former gas board chairman and a Thai woman 53 years his junior appeared to be at an end yesterday just six days after the couple began their new life together in Britain.

Brian Clegg, 76, was married to Banjit Sawaengdee, 23, in Bangkok in October after being introduced by a mail order dating agency. The former chairman of Northern Gas said he hoped the linison would provide a climactic closing chapter to his life after two failed

However, last night Mr Clegg was sitting alone in his penthouse flat in Poole, Dorset, after his wife, known to him by the nickname Joom, decided to icave. He blamed the break-up on his wife's ly including £5,600 to buy her aunt a home in Thailand and an allowance for several pov-

<u>an filozof</u>a man gagin amengang dia mengang



Banjit Sawaengdee, 23, and her husband Brian Clegg, 76: "I feel thoroughly stitched up," he said

Charles Black, whose company. Siam Introductions. arranged the marriage, said a newspaper deal arranged by Mr Clegg had strained the marriage to breaking point. Mr Black said: The poor girl was a prisoner in the

erty-stricken relatives. But house, so to speak, and couldn't go out because other newspapers were waiting outside. She was a simple girl. She really wanted to come over and be a housewife, but that wasn't to be."

Ms Sawaenedee stands to lose financially if she divorces Mr Clegg and returns to her family in Thailand. According to Mr Black she had been left a house worth £100,000 in Mr Clegg's will and a pension worth £27,000 A forlorn Mr Clegg said: "I

feel thoroughly stitched up. I should have realised what was going on because she started making some outra-geous financial demands before she even came over here. But I had a word with the agency and she was told to get back in her box a bit.... Right from the start she wanted me to spend, spend,

"I can cither sit around thinking that I am an old man and my life is all behind me, or I can think of myself as a bachelor and get stuck in there. I've already had a woman from Ghana ring me up and offer her services as a replacement, so I have asked her to come and have a drink and see how we get on."

only if it had come from abattoirs that had removed the brain, eyes, tonsils and spinal cord from the carcasses of cattle, sheep and goats.

These organs are known as because they have been identified as being capable of har-bouring BSE infection. The requirement to remove them would apply only to animals over the age of 12 months. although the spleen of sheep and goats of any age would also have to be taken out.

Dr Cunningham announced the ban after the European Union's standing veterinary committee voted vesterday to postpone the introduction of abattoir controls throughout Europe. These had been due to come into force at the start of next year. Most EU states see no reason why they should be subject to the same restrictions as Britain.

Last year Britain imported 150,000 tonnes of beef worth £363 million from all sources. of which 93,100 tonnes came from the European Union. according to the Meat and Livestock Commission.

It was not clear last night what impact Dr Cunningham's action would have. The biggest EU exporter of beel to Britain last year was Ireland. which sent 54,600 tonnes, but the Dublin Department of Agriculture said last night that Ireland already complied with

The European Commission said that two other leading



Farmers at a rally at Westpoint exhibition centre near Exeter. They want £980 million compensation for the damaging effects of a strong pound

exporters to Britain, Holland (17,300 tonnes) and France (11.700 tonnes), were also thought to comply. But Germany (5,330 tonnes) does not have such safeguards and says it sees no reason why it should be subject to the same restraints as Britain.

The Ministry of Agriculture said last night that all non-EU

suppliers, with the exception only of New Zealand and Australia, would have to comply with the new regulations if their meat was to be marketable in Britain. This is apparently because only Australia and New Zealand are considered to pose no threat from either BSE or scrapie, the

Britain imported 9,200 tonnes of beef from Australia, 8,200 tonnes from Uruguay, 7,600 tonnes from Argentina, 6.900 tonnes from Botswana, 6,400 tonnes from Namibia, 5,200 tonnes from Zimbabwe, 4,000 tonnes from Brazil, 3,900 tonnes from New Zealand and 2,800 tonnes from the United States. Nearly all Britain's

imports of sheep meat come from Australia and New Zealand, which are exempt.

Dr Cunningham admitted yesterday that he could not stop foreign meat being imported, but officials said he had the power to ban its sale if it did not meet British requirements. "I cannot ban imports

farmers would like me to but that would be a matter that would have me straight into the European Court," he said on BBC Radio 4's World at One programme. "But I can insist that it can only come in if it has had the specified risk materials removed and

been treated the same as

granules cannot use bone of British

origin as a raw material but may

use imported bones, even from EU

countries that have had cases of

BSE. The level of BSE in these

countries is not considered high enough to warrant a han. ■ Butchers are banned from selling cattle bones direct to customers to feed to their dogs, but may sell the bones to pet feed manufacturers to

In the best tradition of food writers, Robin Young cried 'Foul!' when he accepted the Meat and Livestock Commission's challenge to taste the difference - and lost

FACED the beef bone challenge yesterday, and won. Unfortunately, it was for all the wrong reasons. The Meat and Livestock

Commission's grandly titled Sensory Evaluation Department had arranged a controlled test to determine whether I could tell beef cooked off the bone from that cooked with the bone in.

Accepted wisdom among chefs, cooks and cookery writers is that the bone, which government regulations ban from today, makes beef juicier and more flavoursome. That view has had the support of, among many others, Delia Smith, Gary Rhodes, the Two Fat Ladies and our own Times Cook, Frances Bissell.

The meat industry's Sensory Evaluation Department was out to dispel that impres-sion yesterday. "We want to reassure customers that they are losing nothing by way of flavour or cooking quality." said the British meat consumer marketing manager, whose name just happens to be Chris Lamb,

"Our tests have shown that consumers cannot tell the difference between beef cooked on the bone and boneless joints."

So now, the big question was could !? For the trial, at the Good Housekeeping Institute in West London, they had taken foreribs of beef, cut joints in half and boned one half while leaving the bone in the other.

The Good Housekeeping Institute's cook had then cooked the bone-in and boneless halves in the same oven in exactly the same way. before carving and serving on three plates, two from one half of the joint and one from

the other. I had to pick the I told Mr Lamb I expected to be able to distinguish the beef cooked on the bone because it would be juicier

and probably taste better.
When the three samples arrived, one was immediately distinguishable as the odd one out at very first glance. Without even bothering to taste. I said that the two samples to the right were obviously from the same joint, and that on the left different.

Correct. That on the left was obviously drier. Fine but that happened to be the beef cooked on the bone. Oh

The explanation, I think, is that the Good Housekeeping Institute had cooked the joints for the same amount of time per pound. Overall cooking times were, therefore, shorter for boned joints. Result? The bone-in beef was overcooked, and therefore did not taste as good as it should, while the boneless beef was just about right.

Do I still think consumers are losing something by losing their bone? Yes I do. Beef cooked properly on the bone definitely does taste better.

Sadly, all the test proved was that neither the Meat and Livestock Commission nor the Good Housekeeping Institute knows how to cook beef on the bone, the traditional British joint that from today is a thing of the past.

My conclusion is supported by Frances Bissell. "Of course, the beef on the bone should not be cooked longer." she said. "The bone is not part of the meat, but is a good conductor of heat. It helps the beef cook more quickly." Sorry, Mr Lamb. I hope you are feeling a little sheepish.

WHAT'S IN AND WHAT'S OUT: A GUIDE TO THE NEW FOOD SAFETY LAW ON BEEF THAT TOOK EFFECT AT MIDNIGHT

The ban on beef on the bone, which took effect at midnight, will be enforced under Section 16 of the Food Safety Act 1990. These are its main provisions:

■ Any butcher, shop, hotel, restau- ■ The ban applies to cattle bone rant or caterer that sells cattle bones. or bone marrow, or cuts of beef containing bone direct to the "ultimate consumer" is committing a

Offenders run the risk of a fine of

up to £5,000 and/or up to six months' imprisonment if convicted in a magistrate's court, or up to two years in prison and/or an unlimited fine in a Crown Court.

and beef on the bone from any source at home or abroad. Local authority environmental health and trading standards officers will be required to enforce it.

■ Beef on the bone is still legal from

cattle under six months old, but few animals are ready for slaughter before that age. ■ The main outlawed cuts are ribs

of beef (baron of beef, forerib, wing rib, flat rib, flank and brisket). Tbone steak and oxtail. Up to now these have accounted for 30,000 tonnes, or 5 per cent, of beef sales a year, a trade worth £150 million. ■ Butchers and restaurants are

still allowed to have beef carcasses

on their premises provided they take the meat off the bone before sale to their customers. This means, for example, that the fillets and sirloins contained within a T-bone steak can still be sold once cut from the bone. Restaurants are prohibited from using any cattle bones or bone marrow in the preparation of food

for their customers. Manufacturers of soups, broths, bouillons, stocks cubes and gravy

be included in dog and cat food. .

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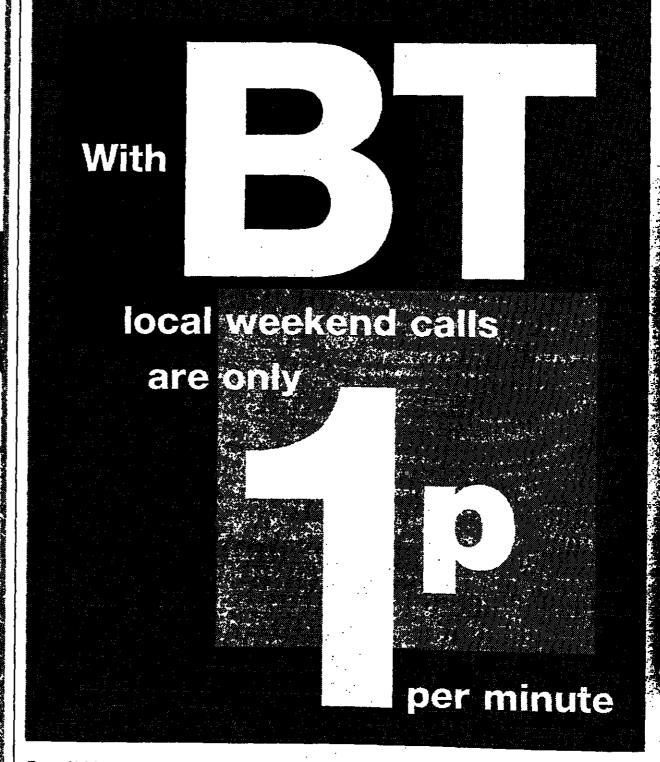
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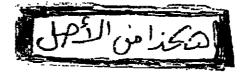
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It's good to talk



Clark says spoof leepish e test to pot his good name weekly diary for the ne paper, commenting on curr here Mr Clark had reft

THE reputation of Alan Clark, the Conservative MP. diarist and self-confessed philanderer, was damaged by a series of newspaper articles that appeared under his name but were written by a journal-ist, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

Mr Clark, who is seeking damages and an injunction preventing the Evening Standard from further publication of "Alan Clark's Secret Political Control of Secret Politic ical Diary" fears that readers do not realise the true author is Peter Bradshaw, a staff writer on the newspaper.

Although Mr Bradshaw's name appears in bold type at the top of the weekly articles, Mr Clark's photograph is prominently displayed. The accounts are written in the first person and refer to places that Mr Clark mentions in his best-selling 1993 diaries, in-cluding his homes in the Albany, Piccadilly, and Saltwood Castle in Kent

"What greater damage could there be to an author than to present another man's words as his?" said Geoffrey Hobbs, QC, for Mr Clark.

Mr Clark was not sueing for defamation or seeking to pre-vent the newspaper publish-ing clear "spoofs", Mr Hobbs



Hastings: refused to drop the spoof diary

said. "His sole ambition is to prevent the Evening Standard from publishing parodies without making it clear that he is not the author," he said.

The court was told that the first spoof article was published soon after Mr Clark won the Conservative nomination for the seat of Kensington and Chelsea in January. Shortly afterwards Max

Hastings, editor of the Eve-ning Standard, had offered Mr Clark £60,000 to write a

weekly diary for the news-paper, commenting on current affairs. Mr Clark had refused the offer, which was substantially less than he was receiving for his column in the News of the World.

A few weeks after Mr Clark's rejection a second parody appeared under the heading "Alan Clark's Secret Election Diary", Mr Justice Lightman was told. The title of the spoof articles was changed after the general election. During conversations in April and May, including one chance meeting at the Chelsea. Flower Show, Mr Clark asked Mr Hastings to make the true authorship clear. But Mr Has-tings had refused, claiming that the articles were "the most popular thing in the

Mr Bradshaw's efforts were even praised by Clive James, the television presenter and satirist, who wrote in a note to Mr Bradshaw that he was "lost in admiration".

The court was told that Evening Standard journalists gave information about Mr Clark's movements to Mr Bradshaw as background for the diary. "Generally the tone is whimsical," Mr Hobbs said. "Some parts are quite ludi-



Alan Clark leaving the High Court yesterday. He rejected a £60,000 offer to write a diary in the Evening Standard

couldn't have been written by Alan Clark."

But Peter Prescott, OC. for the Evening Standard, asked numerous witnesses whether they believed that stories in the spoof diary could possibly have been written by the real Mr Clark. In one extract, the diary told of the exuberant reaction of women supporters on hearing that Mr Clark was

there's no reason why it sion that the ladies at his constituency adoption meeting cheered and flung their undergarments at him?" Mr Pres-cott asked Graham Halkerston, a witness for Mr Clark. Mr Halkerston, a barrister, replied: "I wouldn't be

> They adore him. He's their ideal candidate." In a further spool Mr Clark

surprised at the blue-rinse

brigade at Kensington and

Chelsea Conservative Party.

readers that he had enjoyed a drunken lunch at Wiltons (a fashionable restaurant in his constituency), forgotten to go to a lecture at the Royal United Services Institute where he was to be a guest speaker, and

given a "lying" excuse. Was it really credible, Mr Prescott asked, that Mr Clark should admit to these antics in the Evening Standard in the middle of a general election campaign? Mr Halkerston

Mr Clark, or anyone else, having a drunken lunch but acknowledged that the other matters were "rather odd".

Peter Luff, the Tory MP for Mid Worcestershire, said that he had read two diaries before realising they were spoofs. In one diary the writer had said that Anne Widdecombe, then Prisons Minister, had had her neck bolts airbrushed out of her election photographs.

Briton in court over mountain bus crash

FROM JEAN-PIERRE BENOIT IN ALBERTVILLE

A FRENCH prosecutor yesterday demanded a two-month suspended sentence and 11,000 franc (£1,100) fine for the British driver of a tour bus which crashed in the Alps, killing three Bolton teenagers

last July. The driver, James Shaw, appeared in court at Albertville, in the Savoie, yesterday to face manslaughter charges in connection with the crash, in which the three died and 25 others were injured, when the hired French bus plunged 60 ft from a mountain road

into a ravine at Moutiers. He also faces charges of involuntary manslaughter and failure to control the vehicle. A verdict will be delivered on January 5.

Mr Shaw, of Droylsden, Manchester, told the court through an interpreter: "As far as I am concerned I was driving safely. It was a winding road, narrow in places. The surface was in bad

condition." Jean-Pierre Beroud, the presiding judge, said the road had recently been resurfaced. "It seems to me there was a bump or a hole," replied Mr Shaw. Asked if the coach had toppled over towards the right, he said: "Possibly. I tried to put it back on the

Nicola Moore, 16. Keith Riddings, 14, and Robert Boardman, 15, died in the

Thief who won **Iron Cross dies**

By PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

A SAFECRACKER turned double agent who was awarded the Iron Cross by Hitler while spying for the British has died aged 83.

Eddie Chapman was in prison in Jersey in 1940 when the Channel Islands were invaded by the Germans. The Germans took up Chapman's offer to spy for them, but

into Britain for the second time, he landed on concrete, knocking out all his teeth and damaging his back. For his efforts on behalf of Germany. he was awarded the Iron Cross in 1944.

Towards the end of the telligence work helped to misdirect many VI and V2 bombs away from central London. The British pardoned him of all the crimes he committed before the war.

His wartime exploits, which included the attempted sabotage of British ships in Lisbon with explosives disguised as lumps of coal, were used as the basis for the 1967 film Triple Cross in which Chapman was played by Christopher Plummer,

alongside Yul Brynner. After the war, Chap

ried with a daughter and four grandchildren, will be buried in a private ceremony. The funeral will be held this Thursday in Amersham





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Sergeant wins his job back by a nose

By MICHAEL EVANS

AN ARMY sergeant who was dismissed from the service in disgrace after biting the nose of a fellow non-commissioned officer at a night club in Nairobi. Kenya, won his career back yesterday after a High Court ruling, Sergeant Colin Murray.

of the 1st Royal School of Military Engineering Regi-ment (I RSME) at Chatham, in Kent, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, reduced to the ranks and dismissed from the Army at a court

martial last year. He had pleaded guilty to unlawful wounding, but claimed his action was the result of taking an antimalarial drug, melloquine. Despite an unblemished Army career. Sergeant

Murray's defence was not accepted. However, Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Hooper, yesterday allowed Sergeant Murray's appeal and quashed the sentence after ruling that the court martial had unfairly failed to give reasons for this

A spokesman for the Army said Sergeant Murray. 38. would have his rank reinstated, would be entitled to a full pension. back pay and could return to his job immediately.

Search for Fiat in Diana crash is abandoned

From Ben Macintyre in Paris



vehicle checks in the Paris region alone and which, even

if successful, would be unlike-

The cost of the investigation

-- over £200.000 -- has been

criticised, and judicial sources

say that Judge Stephan wants to avoid further expenditure of

time and effort by the elite Brigade Criminelle.

Nine photographers and a

motorcycle driver may still

face manslaughter charges for

pursuing the Mercedes carry-ing the Princess and her friend

Dodi Faved on the night of the

tragedy, but investigators are

ly to result in a prosecution.

increasingly convinced that the crash was a routine traffic accident, primarily caused by drunk-driving and excessive speed. Blood tests showed that Henri Paul, the chauffeur who also died at the crash scene, was well over the alcohol limit for driving.

A civil suit could still be

brought by the families of the accident victims against the Ritz hotel, M Paul's employers. The Paris Ritz is owned by Mohamed Al Fayed, whose son Dodi was killed in the

Michael Cole, Mr Al Fayed's spokesman, said that Mr Al Fayed wanted the inves-

tracking down the missing Fiat Uno, which was made between 1983 and 1989 and offered the only strong lead in the case, has been an enormous and possibly futile task. Police began interviewing Fiat Uno drivers in the Paris region on November 4, with 20 officers working full-time. Owners were asked to account for the whereabouts of their

ined to date. Police investigators began their inquiries with registered Fiat owners in the west of Paris, simply on the basis that

the car was apparently head-

evidence of collision damage

or respraying. Just 15 cars

tigation to move as rapidly as possible to a conclusion" but that the failure of the French police to find the missing Fiat left "a big question mark" over the tragedy. "Instead of trying to find the car, perhaps they should be finding out why it has been secreted, disappeared, and who would have had an interest in so doing."

Sources close to the investigation originally suggested

that the investigation would

last well into next year, but

ing in that direction out of the Place de l'Alma underpass.

Many owners, having moved or sold their cars, failed to respond to the police sumcars on the night of the crash, in August: those unable to mons. Further complicating the task of police, registration provide convincing responses had their cars examined for documents in France do not always note the colour of cars.

that the Brigade Criminelle would be better deployed have been forensically examtracking down a serial killer at large in eastern Paris. Mr Cole did not rule out the possibility of a civil action against the Ritz. but added that any civil suit would be

Critics have complained

likely to invoke the responsi-bility of the hotel management, rather than Mr Al Fayed, who he said was sim-

ply a "shareholder" in the Ritz. Police scientists are still working on the forensic ex-amination of the wrecked Mercedes. Trevor Rees-Jones. the Princess's bodyguard and sole survivor of the crash, is also expected to be interviewed again by investigators.

As soon as the French investigation is closed, the British coroner can begin his own report into the death of the Princess and of Mr Fayed.

French police at the scene of the crash in which Diana, Princess of Wales and her friend Dodi Fayed died **Born Free Appeal**

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for murder

Police force has defended its actions after a convicted paedophile was convicted of murdering his bomosexual lover in a house undercover

officers were watching.
Mikhail Gallatinov. 23, was jailed for life at Manchester Crown Court for strangling Adrian Kaminsky, 28, at his home in Moston, Manchester. Gallatinov warted police effor prevent the murder by strangling his victim on the day before he told the undercover officer he would do so. Detective Superintendent Ron Gaffey said: "We can only act on what information is available to us."

Midweek trap

The midweek lottery traps people into playing even though they do not want to. The researchers, from Northumbria University, found the midweek event excited only 18 per cent of 485 weekend players. However, nearly all intended playing on Wednesday because they would be upset if their numbers came up and they did not have a ticket.

Pavarotti cancels

Flu forced Luciano Pavarotti to pull out of an appearance in Verdi's Requiem at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham last night and a concert with the Philharmonia at the Royal Festival Hall in London tomorrow, A spokesman said he had been advised not to travel. Roberto Alagna is flying in from Milan to take his place.

Shower power

A crackdown on "super pow-er showers", which use more water than a bath, is being urged by the Water Regula-tions Advisory Committee to help reduce consumption in homes after recent droughts. It wants new rules to empow er water companies to with hold consent to fit such showers unless the household is put on a water meter.

Return journey Fifty passengers are to get refunds after their train

failed to climb Lickey Bank, the longest rail incline in Britain. After trying for 90 minutes, it had to roll gently back to Worcester, where Central Trains were able to divert it onto a more level route. Central Trains blamed leaves which had pressed into

CORRECTION

The Adam Smith Institute does not have charitable status, contrary to an article of

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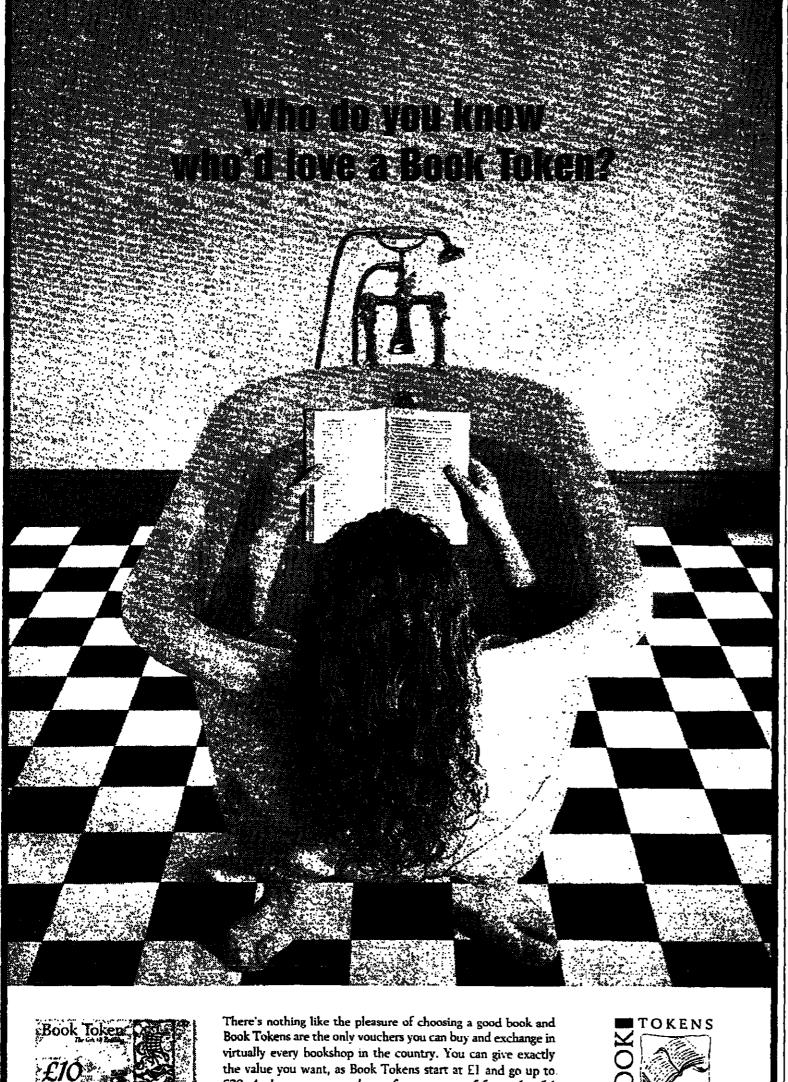
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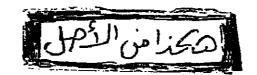


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Jail for killers of couple who escaped Stalin's death camps

AN ELDERLY Polish couple who fled to Britain as refugees after surviving the horrors of Stalin's death camps were murdered almost 50 years later by their fellow

Joseph Ploch, 86, and his ife Kornela, 81, were tortured nd left to die after three intruders broke into their home in Fulham, southwest London, last June.

Mrs Ploch, who had her wedding and engagement rings ripped from her fingers during the attack, was kicked in the face while lying on the floor downstairs and her husband suffocated to death upstairs as the gang tried to force them to reveal the whereabouts of a secret £40,000 cash hoard. The couple, who had been married for 60 years, were bound hand and foot with masking tape. Their bodies lay undiscovered for al-

Their killers, Robert and Mariusz Maczka - two Polish brothers who entered Britain on student visas - have been jailed for life for the brutal aynurders. Yesterday at the Old Bailey a third member of the gang. Rafal Gutarewicz, 24, was sentenced to 11 years in jail for robbery.

The three men, who came to England from Poland in the summer of 1995, breached their conditions of entry by overstaying and working in. the hotel and catering trade.

The court heard that on the way to England the brothers had selected elderly victims in Holland to fund their stay in

The day of the killings wasn't the first time the couple



Joseph and Kornela Ploch were tortured and left to die at their £400,000 London home by the three-man gang

had met the gang. On an earlier visit the men had cased the Ploch's £400,000 home, posing as journalists researching a story on the couple's

The Recorder of London, Sir Lawrence Verney QC, yesterday lifted reporting restrictions concerning the life sentences imposed on the

members: brothers Mariusz, left, and Robert Maczka

Rafal Gutarewicz, right, was sentenced to 11 years at the Old Bailey yesterday

brothers in June this year. The case could not be reported until after Gutarewicz's retrial on the robbery charge.

Robert Maczka, 20, pleaded guilty to both murders and robbery. His 22-year-old epileptic brother, who admitted only robbery, was found guilty of the murder of Mr Ploch and the manslaughter of his wife.

ere tailed for life

slaughter charge on the judge's directions but found guilty of robbery. In June the Common Serjeant of London, Judge Neil Denison, QC, told the brothers: "This was a cold-blooded murder of an old and infirm couple. You showed them no mercy, having assaulted them and in the case of Mrs Ploch with great ferocity. You left them tied by the hands and

Gutarewicz, who was seen

wearing Mr Ploch's clothing

after the attack, was cleared of

murdering the pair in the June

trial but faced a retrial this

month for robbery and the

manslaughter of Mrs Ploch.

He was cleared of the man-

feet to die without even making a call for an ambulance." A senior policeman who investigated the murders said the case highlighted the problem of criminal elements slipping into Britain after the break-up of the Soviet Bloc.

Detective Inspector Anthony Hulbert, who described the crime as a brutal and cowardly attack, said: "Increasingly people from the former Warsaw Pact countries are coming here on visitors' passports and student passes. One minute they were under communist rule and then all of a sudden they find themselves in the West and everything they have seen on TV is open to them. It is a temptation. They

هكذامن رلإمل

want to get it and grab it." The officer said it was very easy to get a job in the catering and hotel trade in Britain with no questions asked. He said this was where they met and formed their plan. The three were living with a

large group of their fellow countrymen in a flat at Lannoy Point, in Fulham, just two miles from the Ploch's large house.

During the raid, the gang found £10,000 in cash but missed a further £30,000 hidden in the cellar. They also stole clothing before calling a minicab to take them away. Mr Ploch was a former

history professor and his wife an actress. He worked in Britain as a draughtsman.

Yard told to act on cost of sick leave

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD has been urged to review its sick-pay and pensions systems after it emerged that sickness and injury cost the Metropolitan Police £72 million last year. A National Audit Office study showed that 400,000

working days were lost last year because of sick leave, and on any one day about 1,500 officers out of the Metropolitan force of 27,000 were absent. The report urges the Yard to examine how its sickpay system works, and questions its housekeeping. Long-term sickness and medical retirements have been rising throughout the 1990s although injuries on duty have fallen. Every day's reduction in the average sickness rate of 14.4 days a year - compared with a national average of eight days - would save the force another £6.3 million.

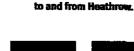
The current system, says the report, might encourage offi-cers to stay off work for long periods in the hope of eventually getting medical retire-ment with an enhanced pension. It could also be used by those trying to avoid disciplinary hearings, a problem that the Yard has acknowledged to MPs in hearings on police complaints and discipline.

A quarter of all officers on sick leave were absent for longer than six months, and the figure is now higher than at any time in the past three years. Stress and spinal and per cent of illnesses.

At the end of the financial year, 302 officers had been off work longer than six months and were still receiving full pay. Since 1995 chief constables have been able to reduce sick pay if an officer is away longer than six months; 1,000 officers have taken long-term sick leave since 1995, and 90 per cent have continued to get full pay after six months. The rules for civilian staff are tougher; 90 per cent of the staff on sick leave for long periods have had their pay cut.

Since 1991-92 the number of officers leaving on sickness grounds has doubled. The NAO says: "Early retirement on medical grounds is financially advantageous to officers and correspondingly costly to forces. The arrangements provide incentives to officers to take long-term sick leave."







privacy and comfort.





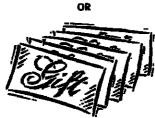
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Scientists trap

most colourful spider bave quadrupled to 120 since scientists set up a "dating agency" for the last 30 survivors.

For 60 years the jewel-like ladybird spider was believed to be extinct in this country until a small colony was found in Dorset in the 1980s. Joy was shortlived, however, when it was realised that the colony, which was con-fined to a site the size of a tennis court, was rapidly be-

coming even smaller. Part of the problem was the arachnid's less than amorous mating habits. The male of the species (Eresus Cinnaberinus) gets the urge to reproduce only once a year, and even then does not journey far in search of romance. He will steal along several yards of silk-lined tunnel and, if the search ends unrequited, as it often does, he dies. Even if successful, mating has tragic consequences. For once the female's eggs have hatched, her final maternal sacrifice is to

be eaten by her brood. The future looked black for the ladybird spider until scientists began tracking down the males and immediately pairing them off with members of the opposite sex.

English Nature's spider expert, Dr Roger Key, said make sure even the females on the edge of the colony

succeeded in mating.
"It isn't a matter of them being shy or unwilling. There are just so few of them the female may sit in her burrow waiting for a boyfriend and have no luck. We maximise her chances of finding love."

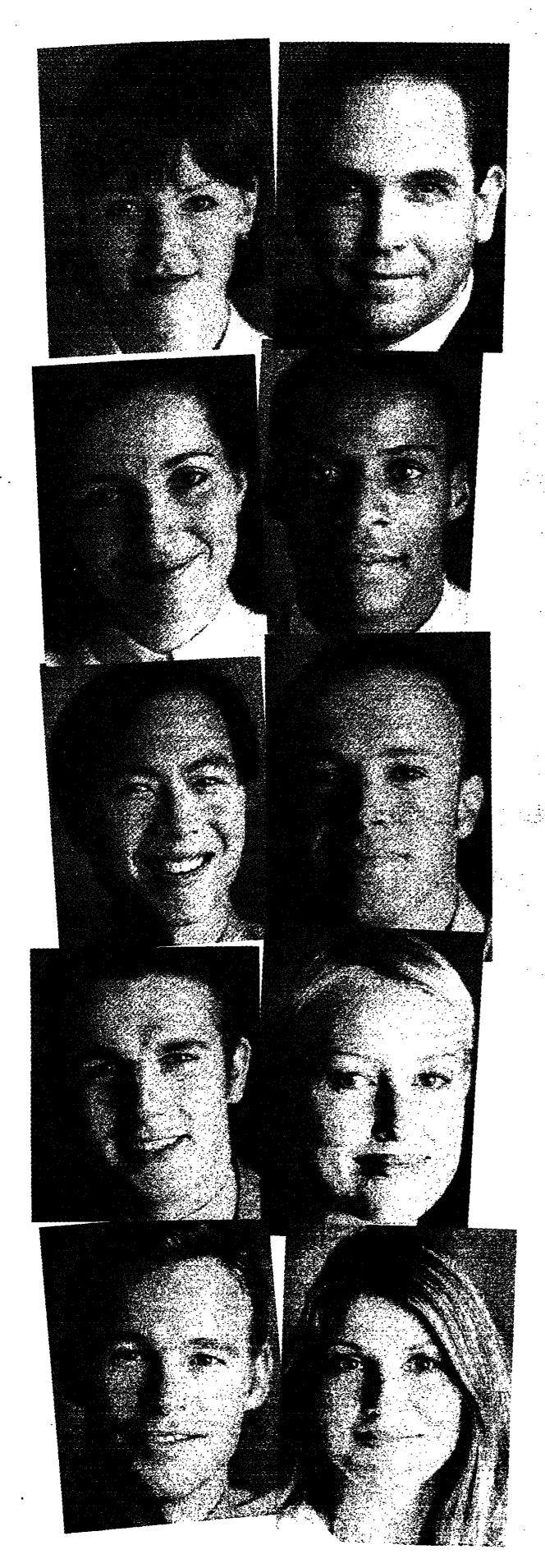
The ladybird spider was once common in the West Country and the Isle of Wight. But huge areas of the dry heathland it favours have been ploughed up or ruined by invading rhododendron bushes. By 1920 the spider was thought to be extinct in Britain. But in the 1980s the tiny colony was found.

The species takes its name from the male's brilliant blood-red body, covered in female is plain black. Both sexes live alone in silk-lined burrows with delicate tripwires radiating out to catch insects several times larger than themselves.

Dr Key said: "This is a gorgeous creature and very elegant in movement. The ladybird spider has the stealthy, purposeful walk of a bird-eating spider instead of the scuttling movement of



Ladybird spider: the red male, left, and black female



One of these people has a disability.

People with disabilities make a significant contribution to the workforce. Right now there are nearly two and a half million

people in the UK of working age with disabilities.

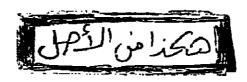
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particular needs and opportunities
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SCHRISTI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three die

in fire at

home for

elderly

Three women were killed and two other people

injured after a fire swept through a residential

eare home for the elderly

yesterday. Neighbours managed

to pull one man dear of

the burning four-bed-room bungalow and a

care worker managed to escape by climbing out of a window. Both were treated for burns and

said they believed the fire

at the home in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, had started accidentally.

Squirrels claim

An allegation that two

royal gardeners drowned squirrels in the grounds of Kensington Palace is

being investigated by the

Royal Society for the Pre-

vention of Cruelty to Ani-

mals. "It is not strictly illegal to kill them, but it

has to be done humanely:

certainly not by drown-

ing," a spokesman said.

RAF near-miss

An RAF Tornado came

close to a mid-air crash

when the pilot failed to

see a Jersey European Airways plane, with 27 passengers, until the last

moment, according to the

Joint Airprox (airmiss)

Working Group. Both aircraft had to make

emergency turns near Ex-

Shops accused

such goods this year.

Friends of the Earth said.

eter airport on April 8.



Angus Colville

Lost air ticket led to murder

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A SCOTTISH aristocrat was stabbed to death as he went to get a replacement for a lost airline ticket while on a yachting holiday off Guatemala, Central America, an inquest was told yesterday.

Angus Colville, 58, brother of Viscount Colville of Culross, QC, had intended to spend the last few days walking in the mountains, but instead had to go to Guatemala City to pick up a new ticket.

The inquest at Tavistock, Devon, where he was a partner in a firm of chartered surveyors, was told that Mr Colville was attacked outside a sports

Julie Johnson, British vice-consul in Guatemala. said in a statement that the only known witness to the murder had told police Mr Colville had been beaten by two men before he was killed. A waist bag with money and documents was taken but the killers left a watch and a ring.

Timothy Trafford, who owned the yacht on which Mr Colville had been staying, said his friend had been advised to take taxis in unsafe areas. A verdict of uniawful

killing was recorded.

Damning report condemns Met's Lawrence inquiry

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD'S inquiry cases the report will make into the murder of Stephen Lawrence, the black teenager, was flawed by significant weaknesses, omissions and lost opportunities" according to a scathing report published by the Police Complaints Authority yesterday.

The report was drawn up for Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, based on the findings of an inquiry by Kent police after Mr Lawrence's parents complained about the way the case was handled. Mr Lawrence, 18, was stabbed by a gang of white youths in April 1993 as he waited for a bus in Eltham, South London, Nobody has been convicted.

Concentrating much of its criticism on Scotland Yard's first inquiry, the report paints a picture of an investigation during which senior officers were divided over who should be in charge, arrests were rushed, possible leads were ignored and detectives wrongly claimed they were ham-pered by lack of help from the public. When Scotland Yard reviewed the investigation the errors were not identified. Subsequent investigations

were also flawed. For a force that prides itself doleful reading. At least one senior officer admitted privately that the report would have repercussions for all

The authority's report de-molishes Scotland Yard's claims that attempts to track down Mr Lawrence's killers were hampered by a "wall of silence" by local people. In fact there was "considerable evidence" that the people of Eltham had come forward, sometimes reluctantly, with valuable information about five white youths who were subsequently arrested for the killing.
The report said: "The early

information was vital. It could only have come from sources close to the suspects since street rumour and gossip would not have had time to develop." The murder inquiry should have focused on this but there were numerous weaknesses in this area that have been identified by the complaint investigation.

Four days after the murder, there were 20 pieces of information pointing to the suspects who were eventually arrested. Some came from known sources and the anonymous sources could have been



Stephen Lawrence, who was stabbed at a bus stop

identified if appropriate action had been taken, the report said. Information acquired from a local resident available during the first weekend after the murder might have pro-duced evidence placing the suspects at the scene on the night of the killing, but it was not followed up for three days. Within the first few weeks of the investigation, there was information from a number of sources, including police infor-mants, that would have corroborated information linking four of the suspects to other knife attacks. During the initial weekend there was even evidence available to arrest two of the suspects for a separate offence of attempted murder. "This might have assisted the investigation of Stephen Lawrence's murder. However, the detective superintendents responsi-ble did not take this opportunity, although they were aware it was available," the report said.

outside the Home Office yesterday with the Police Complaints Authority report

systematically and lacked the necessary analytical approach to maximise its potential to produce evidence. The quality of supervision of officers was poor and assumptions were made about the standard of work being carried out that would not have withstood proper scrutiny.

The report said that arrests were rushed, ill-prepared and ill-planned. The detective superintendent in charge of the investigation was unavoidably absent at a crucial time shortly after the arrests of the main suspects, when two senior officers each insisted

that the other was responsible hearings over the investigafor the conduct of the investigation.

The report said that much information might never have come to light but for the persistence of Mr Lawrence's parents, Doreen and Neville, who were bitterly critical of the police handling of the case. Nor would the lines of inquiry now made available to the Metropolitan Police Service by the complaint investigation have been identified."

Last night Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metroquiry into the killing which is politan Police, said some offidue to start taking evidence in cers may face disciplinary

tion. Sir Paul said he accepted the main findings of the report and that there had been problems during the initial stages of the inquiry that might have affected the outcome. He said:

have expressed my regret, my apologies that this didn't lead to a prosecution." The report will now be passed to Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, the retired

Environmentalists ac-"I have had the privilege of cused the big high-street meeting the Lawrences twice. I retailers of assisting the destruction of the world's forests by failing to stock wrapping paper made of recycled material. Up to a quarter of a million trees judge heading the public inwill be felled to provide

Neville and Doreen Lawrence, Stephen's parents, and his sister Cheryl Sloley

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Their reasons for this deci-

sion will be one of a number of

professional judgments to be

commented on in the investi-

gating officers' final report."
It said that poor handling of

the identification evidence

might have led to one attacker

being overlooked completely

by the murder inquiry team.

"An evaluation of the material

shows that the murder investi-

gation failed to analyse avail-

able information effectively by

confusing a distinguishing

feature of the suspects," the

crinical of a surveillance opera-

tion mounted on a number of

suspects and of the standard of

the forensic tests carried out at

tion has identified weaknesses

in the leadership, direction and quality of work of the first

murder investigation," it said.

Information was not dealt

"In general, the investiga-

the homes of those arrested.

The report was also sharply

report said.

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Charity stunned by ban on TV advert



Stills, above and right, from Christian Aid's commercials

Christian Aid's campaign to relieve suffering caused by Third World debt has been ruled to be too

political, reports Carol Midgley

CHRISTIAN Aid condemned as "absurd" yesterday a decision by advertising watchdogs to ban a campaign that highlights the hu-man suffering caused by Third

World debt. The charity pledged to use other media, such as the Internet, to spread its message after the Broadcast Advertising Clearance Centre (BACC) ruled that two advertisements breached Article Ten of the Independent Television Commis-

The commercials, lasting 60 seconds and 30 seconds, show sinister debt collectors snatching a dummy from a baby and seizing a syringe from a nurse, with the slogan: "One child every second is born into countries."

They were due to be shown in the new year ahead of the G8 industrialised nations' discussion of the debt crisis. But the BACC said the advertisements violated the ITC code that prevents commercials from showing any political partiality or being used for political ends. Andrew Simms, of Christian Aid, said it was ridiculous that it was possible to advertise nuclear power stations but not the suffering of human beings.

The advert was an attempt to illustrate the United Nations' warning that, without dramatic action to reduce Third World debt before the millennium. 21 million children

could die. In Africa there were

than they were on their health and education budgets. Mr Simms said: "It's about as serious as it gets . . . and it's about as easy to get people interested in Third World debt as it is to get them

countries that were spending more

paying back their debts to the West

to do their tax returns. "If it's political to raise the issue of 21 million children possibly dying through the inadequate action of the powers that be, then on that level it might be. It's a shame the BACC couldn't ban Third World debt."

He said Christian Aid would now

consider "every way possible" to get current public policy the advertisement shown, from broadcasting it on the Web, sending

videos to campaigners to show in village and church halls, and getting it screened in the cinema.

A spokesman for the BACC said

the advert had been viewed and it was considered that it violated the ITC code. "We have had no dialogue with Christian Aid," he said. Article Ten states: "No advertisement may be inserted by or on behalf of any body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature and no advertisement may be directed to-wards any political end. No advertisement may ... show partiality [in respect of matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to

Jenny Tonge, the Liberal Democrar's international development

FOR decades they have been been condemned without a

fair trial. But now research

has cleared the magpie and

the sparrowhawk of devastat-

ing Britain's population of

A rise in numbers of the

two predators over the past 25

jor declines in populations of

bullfinch, skylark, linnet,

reed bunting, song thrush

Results of a new study.

true culprits. Herbicides

crops and winter stubble is

and tree sparrow.

rarely available.

small birds.

spokeswoman, said Third World debt was one of the major problems of today. "Every day, thousands of children are dying because poor countries cannot afford basic healthcare and education - because their spare cash is spent on servicing debt instead of helping their own people. This is an humanitarian issue as much as it is a political

The commercial was made by freelance director Mark Brozel, the man behind the BBC's Modern Times documentary Mange Tout. He said he was surprised that it had been banned from television "We wanted to make a provocative but rather subtle and witty ad that didn't take a sledge-

hammer approach to the issue." he said. "As far as I am concerned it is the situation that is controversial, not the advert." Mr Simms added that the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and most governments agreed there was a problem, so it was not taking a controversial stance.

Earlier this year an advertising campaign by the Vegetarian Society that linked eating red meat to contracting cancer was withdrawn after the Advertising Standards Authority said it was misleading. In 1995, the ASA criticised the NSPCC, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the International Fund for Animal Welfare for "stretching

NEWS IN BRIEF

NatWest £15,000 charges mistake

Graham Walker, 48, a former builder forced to sell his four-bedroom house in Walsall in 1992 as he battled to pay interest charges, has found that NatWest overcharged him by £15,000 over four years on his £160,000 loan.

After an independent audit the bank has now conceded that it overcharged Mr Walker, now a consultant engineer. of Chelmsford, Essex.

Flight delays

Holidaymakers are likely to face more flight delays next summer caused by air-traffic-control problems, it emerged, after fig-ures showed that such delays in Europe rose by 6 per cent this summer over the previous year.

MP's damages

Labour MP Derek Foster ages from the Newcastle Sunday Sun over allegations that he had failed to give proper care and sup-port to MP Gordon McMaster in the run-up to his death last July.

Cook's tour

Thousands gathered at Whitby, North Yorkshire, to see off a replica of Captain Cook's Endeavour, the ship on which he left the port in 1768 to discover Australia. The replica was returning to Fremantle after a re-fit.

M-way protest

About 20 environmental protesters attempted to disrupt yesterday's opening ceremony of the 13mile M65 extension near Blackburn, Lancashire, attended by Home Secretary lack Straw. There were no

Arts accolade

Sir Ernest Hall, a businessman who spent 14 vears transforming a factory in Halifax into the Dean Clough arts centre, was presented with the Goodman Award by the Association for Business

Hit numbers Callers phoning

panies stayed on hold for 20 per cent longer if they were played music, repopular listening: sales messages were disliked

Alsatian licks bite rap by joining the police

A CASE brought against a woman for having a dangerbecause the dog has joined Anne Dent faced the allegation after her dog. Ben. tried to bite a visitor to her

home at Harworth, Notting-But Jane Ball, for the trates at Worksop that the case had been withdrawn cided to channel the dog's

police dog After the hearing. Mrs Ball said: "I must admit it is

interests in the right direc

became void because she the defendantj no longer had the dog. It is unusual that she gave the dog to the police. To be fair, the dog was using its natural instincts. Now these instincts can be channelled to help

would not care to be alone with Ben. He could be boisterous. This seems to be

when he slipped down a muddy bank as he chased Canty rang for an ambu-lance as be lay injured, but when the crew arrived they found they were locked out Canty had lost his keys in the fall, and bad to climb over a fence. Mr Canty. 48, who works for K9 Security, lands, needed stitches to the

bite in his arm. Mike Brownhill, K9 Security Director, said the dog, Blue, had become confused during the pursuit. "Mick's had that dog since it was a pup and it's a pet, daft as a barrel of pop," he said. "He doesn't bear the dog any ill feelings and they are still the

Christie killer iailed

A COCAINE addict who stabbed the brother of Olympic runner Linford Christie to death was jailed for five years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Simon Williams, 32, unemployed and of no fixed address, pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of 34-year-old Russell Christie, who died the neck after a row over crack cocaine in Notting Hill, west London, last December.

The Recorder of London, Judge Lawrence Verney, said that, while Christie was "quite prepared for violence", he had ost his life. He sentenced Williams to four years and three months for the manslaughter of Christie, and to nine months for actual bodily harm to a London taxi driver.



Songbird Two cleared

hawk will be announced today at the annual meeting of the British Ecological Society at the University of Warwick. It follows analysis of data involving 23 small-bird spehours of fieldwork by British

David Thomson, senior au-thor of the report by the BTO and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said: There were thousands of examples and we could find no direct relationship between the increase in predators and the decline in small birds. In essence, the magpie been found not guilty.

BTO figures already pub lished reveal that magpie and clines in numbers of bull-

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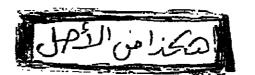
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Labour rebels keep Harman under pressure

LABOUR MPs put Harriet Harman under further pressure yesterday over government plans to cut benefits for the disabled and single

The Social Security Secre-tary was criticised by several of the backbenchers who voted against the Government last week over cuts in lone-parent benefit of up to !!! a week. Both Labour and Tory MPs pressed her for assurances that the Government would not impose cuts on benefits for the disabled.

The confrontations in the Commons follow the leaking of a memo confirming that the Social Security Department is drawing up plans to curb the £24 billion disability benefit bill. The front-runner is a proposal to tax or means test disability living allowance, which goes to 1.7 million people and costs the State £4.36 billion a year.

During social security questions of the state of the security questions of the security questions of the security questions.

tions, David Winnick, MP for Walsall North, who was part of last week's rebellion, warned Ms Harman that Labour backbenchers wanted the interests of the disabled to be protected. "In any review which is taking place, those that are disabled . . . should not find their disability allowance will be means-tested or taxed or worsened in any way," he said. "The Prime Minister has said that the disabled will be protected that's what Labour MPs want and I'm sure that will

happen.* But Ms Harman refused to rule out changes to disability benefits, merely insisting that those "in need" would not be worse off.

Although the study of dis-ability benefits is supposed to be part of the comprehensive spending review across Whitehall. Downing Street indicat-

By James Landale

ed the breadth of his responsibilities in

Government yesterday as he fought to

The Paymaster General was locked

in discussions at the Treasury with

coal and power industry chiefs aimed

at reaching a deal to extend contracts

and prevent pit closures and job losses. His involvement over the past few weeks has raised questions at West-minster over why he, as a Treasury

minister, is dealing with a matter that

should be the responsibility of the

Some MPs have seen the move as a

slight against Margaret Beckett, Presi-

dent of the Board of Trade, who is

understood to have been criticised

Trade and Industry Department.

resolve the crisis in the coal industry.

Jill Sherman on

the backbench fight to

protect benefits for the disabled

ed that the Chancellor might announce some changes as early as his Budget in March.

Disabled people receive up to £49.50 a week to cover caring costs and up to an additional £34.60 to cover transport costs. Studies undertaken by the previous Goverroment suggest that at least £500 million is misdirected to those who do not need the higher benefit rates.

Tomorrow MPs are expected to raise the issue with the Prime Minister when he gives his end-of-term address to the Parliamentary Labour Party. Senior backbenchers have already met ministers to warn them of the level of concern within the party

A cross-party delegation led



Harman: refused to rule out more cuts

for the job outside his normal responsi-

bilities. "The Prime Minister asked

him to get involved because of his

expertise in business matters," one

It was for these reasons — Mr Robinson's ability to broker deals — that Tony Blair made him a minister in

the first place. According to the Treasury, Mr Robinson has responsi-

bility for a substantial amount of

mainstream government business. His

brief covers economic growth, the

windfall tax. Welfare to Work issues,

public/private partnerships, competi-

tion and deregulation policy, Treasury

interest in small firms and assistance

by Lord Ashley is also meeting Ms Harman on Thursday to protest against any measures to cut benefits for the disabled.

In the Commonsyesterday Ms Harman and Keith Bradley, the Social Security Minister, were also attacked by Lynne Jones, Llew Smith and Jeremy Corbyn, all of whom rebelled last week over the lone-parent benefit cuts.

Dr Jones, MP for Birming ham Selly Oak, asked if E77 a week was adequate for the lone parent of a baby or toddler. "In view of the Government's determination to press ahead with these cuts, what confidence can we have in the Prime Minister's statement this weekend that the Government will look after those in need?"

Some senior MPs are are now pressing the Government to make concessions on single-parent benefits if there is a big rebellion in the Lords. One idea is to provide single par-ents with help at home rather The Social Security Bill goes

to the Lords on January 15 and

some MPs have warned ministers that there will be another damaging rebellion, which could be backed by Tory peers, unless further help is found for single parents.

Last night Frank Field, the Welfare Reform Minister, said the benefits system was not only too expensive but was also inefficient. In a speech delivered in London, he said that any savings from the

Both Mr Field and Ms Harman emphasised that welfare should should be a combination of money and services. Ministers are said to be keen to offer more help to all groups in the form of services rather than money.

Robinson shows range of his Treasury role

from within the Government for her to the Chief Secretary on public faced most criticism for his member-

importantly, as Paymaster General he

is at the centre of government reforms

of the tax system. His first job in

government was to review corporation

system and the introduction of the

individual saving accounts (Isas). By putting a £50,000 cap on tax-free

savings, he was accused of effectively

imposing a new tax on richer savers.

As a minister accused of using offshore

trusts to avoid taxes. Mr Robinson has

social security budget would

be released for education and



هكذامن رلإمل

By POLLY NEWTON POLITICAL REPORTER

ONE of Labour's wealthiest MPs is to succeed Alice Mahon, who was sacked as parliamentary aide to a Cabinet minister last week for rebelling against plans to cut benefits for single

Fiona Mactaggart, who became MP for Slough in May, will take over as parliamentary private secretary to Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary. She inherited a slice of a property fortune built up by her great-grandfather. On government side, her wealth is thought to be sec-

Sacked aide replaced by wealthy new MP

ond only to that of Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster

General. Her father was Sir Ian Auld Mactaggart, a Conservative councillor who stood twice for the party without success in parliamentary elections. She was educated at

Cheltenham Ladies' College and King's College London, where she gained an MA in

Before becoming an MP she worked as a public relations officer for the National Council of Voluntary Organisations and for the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. She is a former lecturer in primary

Ms Mactaggart, 44, is one of the first of Labour's new intake to be promoted. Last week Anne McGuire, MP for Stirling, was appointed as parliamentary private secretary to Donald Dewar, the

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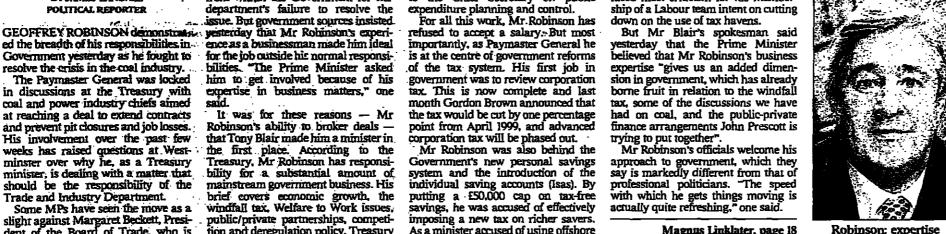
tax. This is now complete and last tax, some of the discussions we have month Gordon Brown announced that had on coal, and the public-private the tax would be cut by one percentage point from April 1999, and advanced finance arrangements John Prescott is trying to put together". corporation tax will be phased out. Mr Robinson was also behind the Mr Robinson's officials welcome his Government's new personal savings

ship of a Labour team intent on cutting

approach to government, which they say is markedly different from that of professional politicians. "The speed with which he gets things moving is

actually quite refreshing," one said.

Magnus Linklater, page 18 Robinson faces heat, page 26



private finance initiative.

Tony Blair is right to stand by him. Tory spokesmen demanding Mr Robinson's

resignation are guilty of just

the type of knee-jerk opposi-

tion for its own sake that they justifiably attacked Labour

for before the election. The

Government should be able to

ride out the affair unless

evidence of a direct conflict is proved. But the Treasury

should make it clear that Mr

Robinson is not going to be involved in any decisions on

Moreover, both the Robin-

son and the Ecclestone contro-

versies show why the present

system of ethical advice needs

to be changed. At present,

ministers consult their permanent secretaries about apply-

ing the Ministerial Code. No

one disputes that Sir Terry

Burns has done his duty in

advising Mr Robinson. But

permanent secretaries are in

an impossible position, being

unable to challenge their own

ministers to offer fuller expla-

nations. The Neill committee

is also the wrong body to examine individual cases. In-

stead there should be a per-

manent government ethical adviser or commissioner who

would have the authority to

The Robinson affair has

tax policy.

Strange finances are no reason to resign GEOFFREY ROBINSON RIDDELL should not resign as a minis-ter. His financial affairs are **ON POLITICS**

certainly strange and his explanations for his dealings with the Guernsey trust have been confusing and in some respects inconsistent. But nothing has so far emerged to suggest that he has done anything wrong as a Treasury minister. The campaign against him is in danger of turning into a personal vendetta, a hunt for a ministerial scalp. To some of his Tory and press critics. Mr Robinson's real crime is being a successful businessman and multimillionaire who is a member

of a Labour Government. In all these affairs, there comes a stage when the central issues are submerged by a mass of often irrelevant details. Proportion is lost and the anoraks take over. In this case, many of the questions about the timing and nature of transactions involving the offshore trust are fascinating for followers of the Robinson family saga but are beside the point since they relate to events before he became a

There are two real questions. First, has Mr Robinson broken the rules of the Commons on the disclosure and registration of financial interests? This applies to all MPs and is nothing to do with Mr Robinson being a minister. This aspect is being examined

by Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. Second, is there a conflict between Mr Robinson's financial holdings and his role as a Treasury minister? However opaque his offshore interests and his account of them, no one has demonstrated that there has been any conflict with his responsibilities at the Treasury. He has shown no favouritism to any special interests.

The most that can be argued is that Mr Robinson became involved with offshore trusts at a time when Labour was committed to countering this tax loophole. This can perhaps be described as hypocrisy, and insensitive, though Mr Robinson has done nothing remotely illegal. However, as he has pointed out, he has personally paid

Mr Robinson may be rather a loner and an oddball by the standards of Westminster, but the word from Whitehall is

large amounts in British tax. Such complicated situations are unavoidable if successful businessmen are to be involved in government. This is desirable in its own right since they bring insights that cannot be provided by conventional career politicians.

that he has brought a fresh

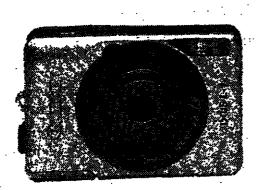
IN PARLIAMENT ODAY in the Commonst guestions and transport, andronment, the regions and transport, National Minimum Wage Bill, second reseting; short debase on by-passes for northeast Heritorderies. In the Locks Suprante Count (Offices) Bill, shift read-second in the County of the

undoubtedly been an embarrassing distraction for the Government. But it is a pity that his critics have not devoted the same energies and column inches to an issue where he should be held to account - his muddled proposals for individual savings accounts, which really affect

investigate.

PETER RIDDELL

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Lawyers' walkout leaves Carlos in trial limelight

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE legal defence team of Carlos the Jackal became a one-man band yesterday, after his lawvers stormed out of a Paris court claiming that his murder trial was illegal and

Carlos, 48, whose real name is Illich Ramirez Sanchez. stands accused of shooting two French Secret Service agents and their Lebanese

No fewer than 29 lawyers have been advising Carlos on legal strategy, but from the start of his trial the accused terrorist mastermind has left no doubt that intends to manage his own, highly excen-

His lawyer, Isabelle Coutant-Peyre, argued that the trial should be called off immediately because Carlos had been "illegally" snatched from Sudan by French agents

After Yves Corneloup, the presiding judge, rejected the defence appeal, Mme Contant-Peyre announced she was withdrawing from the case, along with her two fellow defence lawyers. "Your decision is contrary to the principles I am sworn to defend," the lawyer said. Judge Corneloup ordered her to continue representing Carlos, but she refused, and may now face disciplinary action by the

Carlos spent three years in solitary confinement in the run-up to the trial, and seemed quite unfazed to be left in legal isolation after the latest act of courtroom melodrama in what is building up to be one of the strangest legal cases of recent times.

Since French procedure calls for defendants to be represented, the court, after a recess, appointed a new attorney to defend Carlos.

Defending himself from the dock with typical gusto. Carlos launched into a fresh flurry of objections, accusing Judge Courneloup of a conflict of interest and insisting that the 1975 killings were the fault of Mossad, the Israeli secret service.

These policemen were sent to the slaughterhouse by Israeli agents." the Venezuelan-Carlos declared.

speaking French with an almost impenetrable Spanish

He also argued that Judge Corneloup should be disqualified from presiding since, earlier in his career, he had investigated a 1979 bombing for which Carlos was held responsible.

Carlos said that Judge Corneloup had also carried out an inquiry into the 1983 bombing of a Paris restaurant in which Françoise Rudetski, the head of the terrorist victims' support group SOS Attentats, was injured.

SOS Attentats is representing the families of the men murdered in 1975 as civil plaintiffs, and on the opening day of the trial last Friday Carlos argued that the group was "Zionist racist and revisionist" and should be prevented from participating.

Judge Courneloup, whose tolerance of Carlos's theatrical tendencies may be wearing thin, rejected that appeal and flatly refused to halt the trial, pointing out that his capture had already been approved by



Homeless Russian men sleeping in Moscow yesterday after the city suffered its coldest mid-December night in a century as the temperature fell to -27C (-17F). Four people died, 160 were taken to hospital and schools were forced to shut

Jobless Germans drown misery in sangría dreams

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

opiate of the German worker. Elbowing their way into the discos and clubs of the Ruhr, tens of thousands of youths are crowding into Majorca parties which re-produce all the dubious pleasures of the El Arenal resort wet T-shirt and beerbelly contests and, of course, sangria drunk from plastic buckets with long straws.

The reason for this strange cult is the phenomenal success of a film, Ballermann 6, which is that tare thing a German comedy hit. One million Germans saw it in the first five days after its release, two million people had seen

after five weeks. Viewers imitate the heroes turning up at the cinemas in wet, grey in-dustrial cities, wearing Bermuda shorts. straw hats and sandals, clutching six-

packs of beer, ready to wage popcorn battles and burp their way through the film.

Ballermann 6 does for Spain what Trainspotting did for steam engines: very little. It takes its name from Beach Number Six in El Arenal, which has developed a reputation for a specific brand of alcoholic anarchy. More than 25 millìon Germans a year now land on Majorca. which has barely 600,000 inhabitants. Once, the island was clearly divided between British and German bolidaymakers, with some towns, streets and hotels ethnically segregated. But the British are in retreat and streets are doninated by German sausage stands, beer halls and German dentists, hairdress-

ers and notaries. The real division nowadays is between the heavily protected celebrity residents

SANGRIA, it seems, is the - Michael Douglas, Claus dia Schiffer, Boris Becker all have a foothold - and the concrete silos of the package resorts.

So extensive is the German colonisation -Spiegel magazine calls it the one businessman has started a political party for German residents. Another German businessman, known as the Beer King of the Island because of his hold on alchohol distribution, was recently the victim

of a mob killing.
The Ballerman film has spawned Top Ten hits, Tshirts, cigarette lighters, baseball caps, schnapps bot-

tles, perfume, beer, condoms 6 It does for and easily unfastened Spain what Ballermann bras. The film "Trainspotting" stars did for steam working-class boys who stagengines ger their way very little ? around the resort. They get

off to a good start by vomiting on fellow airliner passengers and one gets stuck in the lavatory. After that, the film is all downhill. The heroes nearly drown in a huge sangria bucket which also contains two women in bikinis.

The serious underpinning of the Ballermann cult is that the morale of the yourger members of the German working class has rarely been lower. Unemployment is at postwar record highs and is edging up towards five million. Trips to Majorca are cheap, even for the unemployed. They fly over with their friends, eat German food, get drunk on German beer and then return. Ballermann 6 celebrates this, and probably prods the memory of many vho were too comatose at the time to recall what actually happened on the

Danes play host to suspected Bosnian war criminal

FROM TOM WALKER

EMBARRASSED Danish officials have admitted that a suspected Bosnian Serb war criminal spent a week in their country observing last month's local elections. His travel arrangements in and out of Bosnia were made by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Ljubisa Savic - nicknamed "Mauser" — is said by many international and local observers to have played a lead role in the start of Bosnia's bloody collapse. He admits being a nivotal figure in the ethnic cleansing of Muslims from Bijelina, the most important town in northeast Bosnia.

which coincided with some of the said a Danish source in Sarajevo war's worst atrocities.

Mix-ups and administrative bungles seem to have led to Mr Savic's invitation to Denmark as part of a group of Bosnian observers who left Sarajevo on November 13. A convert to the politics of Biliana Playsic, the Western-backed Bosnian Serb President, Mr Savic was selected as a suitable witness to the democratic process by the National Assembly of Danish Municipalities. After being brought to the Bosnian capital by the OSCE from Bosnian Serb territory, he was flown by Austrian Airlines to Vienna and then on to Copenhagen. 'We found out just about as soon as

he'd taken off that he had a history."

yesterday.

Alarm bells were, meanwhile, ringing inside the Bosnian Government, which had been telephoned by angry Muslims from the Austrian Airlines flight after it reached Vienna. With no known indictment or arrest warrant for Mr Savic. however, nothing could be done and he continued to Denmark. Danish and OSCE officials helped to reroute his trip back to Bosnia via the Serbian capital, Belgrade, after Mr Savic said he feared he would be arrested in Sarajevo.

The OSCE has wiped its hands of the affair, saying it was asked only at the last minute to help the Danes.

The Danish source said a wellmeaning idea from municipal authority observers to the Bosnian elections had backfired.

Back in the relative sanctity of Republika Srpska, Mr Savic said that he lived in fear of Sarajevo and the Bosnian Serb hardliners. He now heads the executive board of the Democratic Party of Republika Srpska, which is fighting Radovan Karadzic loyalists for control of Bijelina, one of Republika Srpska's few towns with economic potential.

His detractors - and they are accuse him of widespread ethnic cleansing in 1992, when his "Panther" paramilitaries joined forces with thugs operating under the

notorious Serb warlord Arkan, Mr. Savic says he helped to move Muslims to the safety of Bosnian Federation territory or abroad, knowing that if they stayed they might be

☐ Washington: President Clinton visits troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina next week in a Christmas trip designed to build the case for an extended US presence in the Balkans beyond June's scheduled withdrawal

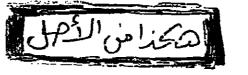
of Nato forces (Tom Rhodes writes). Mr Clinton, who last visited Bosnia in January 1996, will tour Sarajevo and Tuzla, the region's biggest US base, during a whistle stop visit. He will spend only 12 hours

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Shortages damp dreams Spirit of Cuba's Christmas cheer

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

NEWS that Cubans will be able to celebrate Christmas as a holiday for the first time in 29 years caused widespread excitement yesterday. This was tempered, however, by the fact that most Cubans have little to look forward to. Churches will be open to all, but only those with access to US dollars sent by relatives in Miami are likely to be able to enjoy traditional Christmas

Most traditional Christmas decorations are only available at a limited number of government-run hard-currency stores. Children's toys are a rarity, and priced beyond the reach of most Cubans, who are paid on average the equivalent in local currency, the peso of about \$10 (£5.95) a

Even the traditional Cuban Christmas dinner staples, rum and pork, are almost impossible to come by in pesos. The Government is doing its best this year to make things as merry as possible by halving the price of pork and selling scarce Cuban rum and Spanish wines at rock-bottom dollar prices.

For the first time, selected dollar shops have decorated their windows with frosty Christmas scenes and stocked their shelves with plastic Christmas trees and Father control the camera angles and were expelled.

charge of dismantling Presi-

dent Saddam Hussein's

reported little progress in

talks with senior Iraqi offici-

als in Baghdad yesterday

(Michael Theodoulou writes).

core issue of access to dozens

He said discussions on the

weapons of mass destruction, tion on its outlawed biological

Christmases. For those who cannot afford a tree, there is a flourishing black market trade in pine-tree branches being smuggled into the capital. Havana, from the countryside.

From a purely spiritual point of view, the news has been welcomed by the Vatican. Joaquin Navarro Valls, the Vatican spokesman, said he was "grateful" and "satisfied with the decision which was "desired by all the Cuban people and the Cuban church". He did not comment on the fact that the holiday. announced by President Castro is for this year only.

The announcement is one of a series of concessions that the Vatican had been seeking prior to a visit by the Pope to Cuba next month. It could signal the Government's willingness to give ground on other issues. The Vatican is still waiting to be allowed time on state-run Cuban television to publicise the Pope's visit. It has also asked that four openair Masses be shown live on television. Cuba has said that may be impossible because economic curbacks have stopped daytime broadcasts

on Cuban television. The Government has so far not responded to requests that the Vatican be allowed to

was disappointed that Iraq had failed to fulfil its prom-

ises to divulge new informa-

and chemical weapons pro-

grammes. "Biology did not

In fact [Iraq gave] a rather

defiant statement that said

"Nothing there is nothing."

sent anything new at all.

narration of the broadcasts of papal ceremonies.

Without providing any details, the state-run news agency, Prensa Latina, reported that President Castro had promised to help the Vatican to secure access to state radio and television. The President also promised at the weekend would publish and broadcast the Pope's traditional Christ-

However, observers remain sceptical. Despite the historic nature of the visit - it is the first by a Pope since the 1959 Cuban Revolution — the local media have largely ignored it. Since the visit was announced more than a year ago, the official party newspaper, Granma, has published a

total of eight articles about it. After decades of being cut off from the influences of Roman Catholicism, many Cubans remain ignorant of the Pope's role as head of the church. He is expected to push for a greater church role in education, as well as permits for more foreign missionary clergy and nuns.
The Government officially

declared itself Communist and atheist in 1962, although Christmas Day continued to be celebrated as a holiday until 1969. Catholic priests

months'



President Clinton with his three-month-old, chocolate-coloured Labrador, which has joined the family cat, Socks, in the White House. The puppy is not yet named

Record number executed in jails of US

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

MORE prisoners were executed in 1997 than in any year since the United States restored the death penalty in 1976, according to the Justice

Texas, which carried out exactly half of the total of 74 executions, was entirely re-sponsible for the leap in the national figures from 45 executions in 1996. The state, which carried out only three executions in 1996, described itself as having a "backlog" of prisoners on death row until this year. Its total of 37 is the highest number of executions carried out by a single state in one year since 1930, when records began.

Virginia was far behind in second place, with nine executions. All of the 74 executed were men. Of the 70 executed by November 30, 44 were white, 24 black and two of other races. The last execution of a woman was in 1984.

Opponents of the death penalty yesterday seized on the figures as support for their case that executions are a "lottery" in which the numbers of the poorest and mentally handicapped come up most often. Donald Cabana, the former warden of Mississippi's Parchman prison, told Vanity Fair magazine this week that the penalty was "bingo personified".

The figures show the impact of the last year's federal Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, which sharply curtailed the appeals process. The leap also reflects the growing popularity of the death penalty among state governments. Only New England is a liberal bastion.

The rise is supported by the majority of Americans. A Har-ris poll in 1965, when there were only seven executions. found 47 per cent opposed to the penalty and 38 per cent in favour, this year a Harris poll found nationwide support had



John Belushi: star

The booze brothers still rule on campus

By NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

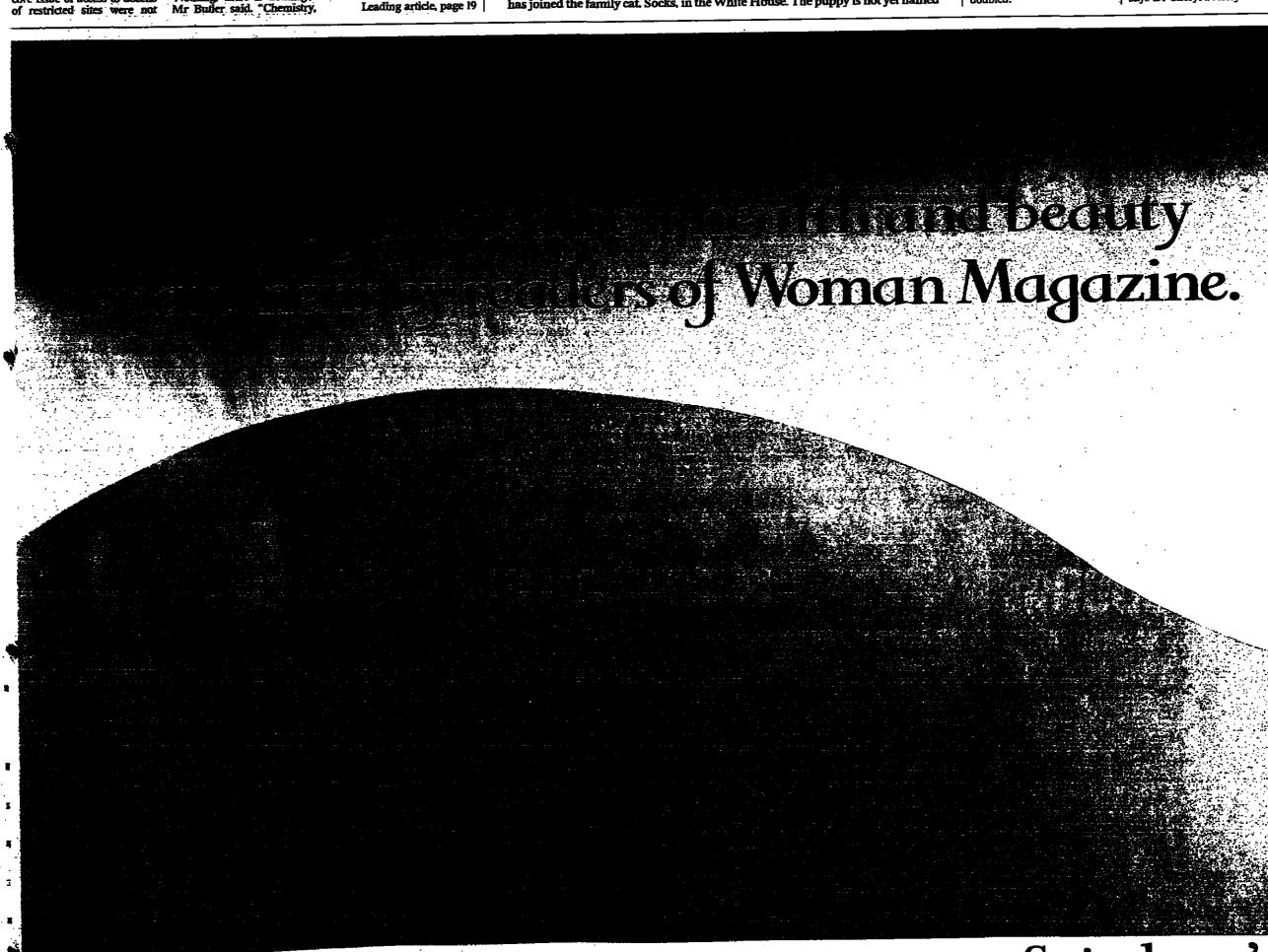
DISGRACEFUL behaviour is flourishing in the fraternity houses of American universi ties. Members still drink and party, reports a disapproving team of academics in the latest issue of the Journal of Studies of Alcohol.

Far from setting an example, leaders of fraternities named after the Greek alphahet - drink more, pass out more often, suffer more hangovers and take part in more fights than ordinary members. On this evidence, the comedy film Animal House deserves reclassification as a documentary.

The authors, from the universities of Cornell and Southem Illinois, defined "binge drinking" as five or more drinks in a row, and discovered after gathering data from 25,411 students at 61 institutions that three quarters of fraternity leaders had reached that target at least once in the previous fortnight. In sororities, 55 per cent of leaders were "binge drinkers".

Both sexes agreed that drink "facilitates sexual opportunities", with men holding the view more strongly. 'Students see alcohol as a vehicle for friendship, social activity and sexual opportunity, and these beliefs clearly occur to a greater degree among Greeks |fraternitymembers] than non-Greeks. says Dr Cheryl Presley.

oury's



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FRESH FOOD, FRESH IDEAS.

Mandela hands ANC leadership to sharp-suited master of survival BY SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT WHEN Nelson Mandels stepp down as president of the African National Congress today and hows out of daily polities to enjoy being largely ceremontal head of state for the next two years, real power is smallestly Ministed lists of the the Airs and the most of Nr Mandels and the remore for lists of the shart fine arm various described as a "delight" and a shadowy manuplator". Piper smoking, sharp-suited, sinreger and level-handed is dethe react who years, real power is smallestly Mandels and the remore of Nr Mandels where the hands of a man various described as a "delight" and a shadowy manuplator". A delight objects before taking deshows a suppost to the post vectors. A delight of the past year. The top party post will ensure that he will also succeed will ensure that he will also succeed



Mbeki: critics say he

cere and level-headed. Thabo Mbeki. 55. is much liked and admired by South Africa's big businessmen. A long-time member of the Communist Party, he re-

A dull to boring public speaker, Mr Mbeki will be elected unop-posed to the presidency of the ANC on Thursday morning. Already Deputy President of South Africa, he has been running the country and chairing Cabinet meetings for

The first to fall was Cyril Ramaphosa, the former general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, who became the politics after a squabble with Mr

His critics are quick to accuse Mr Mbeki of Stalinist tendencies over his alleged inability to tolerate

to jail for 27 years and then sort of graduate from there, grow taller, wear those strange shirts? No, no. it's not a rational expectation." He said that, as it was the ANC

of whom come from the group of exiles who spent most of their lives lighting the white regime from outside the country.

Albright signals softer US approach on Africa

By SAM KILEY IN HARARE AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE American Secretary of State. Madeleine Albright, yesterday signalled a switch in United States foreign policy on Africa, softening a previously tough approach towards Afri-

Briefly stopping in Harare at the end of her first tour of Africa that took her to seven countries on the continent, Mrs Albright said she had come to the continent to listen. -I have listened, and I think as a result of that I feel very strongly that human rights and the rule of law has to continue to be the bedrock of our relationship.

But we have to understand the local context." she added. "We make a mistake if we think every African country is the same and we can just organise [things] the way that we think everything should be

After an hour-long meeting with President Mugabe, she of the great leadership role the President has been

The subtle shift in American policy towards Africa was Albright's stops as she promoted engagement without marked America's relationship with China during President Clinton's first term.

Her remarks yesterday came after strikes and rioting in Harare last week. Morgan Tsvangirai, a union leader. was beaten up in his office by five men and two women after he organised last week's general strike, which shut down the private and public sectors in a spectacular show of discontent with 17 years of Mr Mugabe's rule. He blamed the attack on the Government, and his assailants were identified as members of Zanu's youth wing. Few locals believe they will be successfully prosecuted.

The assault on the union leader and reports that the army was moments from intervening with bullets against strikers have left many fearing suppressed savagely. Strikes are something that we must use very sparingly and responsibly. We cannot give the Government the chance to reflected at each of Mrs fulfil its promise to use live



ammunition to break up demonstrations in the future," said Mr Tsvangirai, recuperating at his home on the outskirts of

the capital. The success of the strike. which ended in riots after police defied a court order to allow peaceful demonstrations in Harare and fired tearas into the crowd. panic in Zanu ranks, too. Outsiders wonder how long Mr Mugabe, 76, can stay in

Ranged against him is what he has called an "unholy

alliance". Private businesses paid their employees a full day's wage on the day of the strike, which also had the support of the conservative Commercial Farmers' Union (mostly white landowners) and the public-sector unions which until last week, were staunchly pro-Zanu.

when everyone feels alienated? Mugabe's arrogance has created a convergence of discontent," said Mr Tsvangirai. With unemployment of at least 33 per cent, inflation over

30 per cent, the Zimbabwe dollar in freefall and capital fleeing fast after the announcement of plans to seize 1,503 commercial farms without compensation, Mr Mugabe has very little good news to shore up his power base.

The man is either mad, stupid, or both. No one here change of government," said Wilson Ndube, a street cobbler. "The rich hate him, but the poor hate him more. His Government is corrupt from

problems began with a campaign for compensation launched by veterans of the war against white minority rule. Their rage reached fever pitch when an investigation by the independent press re-vealed that the President's cronies had been awarded pounds for spurious injuries sustained during the war.

Many of Mr Mugabe's

Fuel and power levies to finance awards to veterans were shelved after the protests

WORLD IN BRIEF

Britons hostage in Nigerian job row

Two Britons are among a number of foreign oil workers being held hostage on a Nigerian houseboat in a labour dispute between Nigerian employees and Western Geophysical, the Houstor-based oil exploration company (Victoria Fletcher writes). A third Briton was released yesterday from the boat, near Benin City in the southwest. The Foreign Office has named Paul Breslin as one of those held

since last Saturday.

Foreign Office officials were confident there would be a quick and peaceful end to the incident. None of the hostages has been harmed and they are all in touch with their families by phone," a spokesman said.

Doctors to pay for failure

Karlsrube: Germany's highest court said doctors who failed to perform sterilisation operations successfully could be liable for the upkeep of children born subsequently. The Constitutional Court ruling came in the case of a urologist who had appealed against an order by a lower court to pay maintenance to a patient after the birth of a child. In a separate judgment, the court ruled that a doctor could be ordered to pay maintenance if a child was born disabled after its parents were given misleading genetic advice. (Reuters)

Malnutrition 'emergency'

Geneva: Infant malnutrition, which affects one child in two in South Asia and one in three in Africa, is the world's "silent emergency". Unicef said in its annual assessment. Twelve million children under five die every year and malnutrition is a factor in 55 per cent of cases. The report said the world had sufficient food resources to overcome the problem. Although linked to poverty, it noted that malnutrition was widespread in developed countries such as Britain and the US. (AFP)

Rescue team finds boy skier

Bonneville: A six-year-old skier was found unhurt by French mountain rescue workers after disappearing on Sunday and falling 190ft down a crevasse. The boy, from Switzerland, disappeared while skiing behind his parents and sister on the Flaine mountain, near here. Rescue workers located the crevasse after finding one of the boy's skis. They said his fall was broken by a thick layer of snow at the bottom. (AFP)

Ramos choice challenged

Manila: Renato de Villa, right, a E former Philippines Defence Secretary, broke ranks with President presidential bid for the 1998 election, challenging the man nominat-ed by the President to succeed him (Abby Tan writes). Mr de Villa, 62, a soldier whose career path closely followed that of Mr Ramos, his mentor, said he would oppose the President's choice. José de Venecia. the Speaker in the lower house.



Homeless rate soars in US

Washington: Soaring rates of hunger and homelessness in US cities are casting doubt on ambitious welfare reforms (Bronwen Maddox writes). City mayors are concerned by a survey of 29 cities by the United States Conference of Mayors which found that demand for food rose by 16 per cent in 1997, the largest jump for five years.

Aristocrat's red-letter day

Moscow: A descendant of Count Grigori Orlov, a lover of Catherine the Great, has won election to the Moscow city council, Tass said. Stepan Orlov, an independent, became the first aristocrat elected to a legislative body since the Russian Revolution, the agency reported.(AFP)

Black Muslim leader flees Jerusalem after death threat

LOUIS FARRAKHAN, the American black Muslim leader, hastily cancelled a visit to Jerusalem's Islamic holy sites yesterday and crossed back into Jordan after reports of death threats by Jewish

The Nation of Islam leader, on a 52-nation world tour, caught Israel's intelligence services by surprise when he crossed the Israeli-guarded Allenby Bridge from Jordan to the

West Bank on Sunday. Yesterday, after talks with Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, in Gaza and an overnight stay in the Palestinian selfrule town of Ramallah, Mr Farrakhan left as unexpectedly as he had arrived, claiming he felt unwelcome in Israel and feared for his

He said that he had changed his plans after learning of planned Jewish protests against his visit to Al Aqsa Mosque in annexed east Jerusalem, the third holiest Islamic shrine after Mecca and Medina. "If anything should happen to me in this land, it could not bring good results in black-Jewish relations in the US, so in the interest of peace I think it is best that I leave." he said. Israeli officials made no secret of their relief at his quick exit. The right-wing Government had reviewed banning him from the country because of his alleged anti-Semitism, but had declined because

he was travelling on an American passport and Israeli-US relations are already strained over the lack of progress in the Middle East peace

leaves here, we can say we are blessed to be rid of this anti-Semite and racist," said Danny Naveh, the Israeli Cabinet Secretary and a close confident of the Prime Minister. "His meetings with the Palestinian leadership are proof of the maxim: Tell me who your friends are and I will tell you who you are'."

Mr Arafat praised the black leader. "We are very happy to have this opportunity to meet our brother in our land," he said in Gaza. "We spoke in detail of all the difficulties

we are facing and how to push forward the process for peace. ☐ Settler jailed: The founder of the West Bank settler movement, Moshe Levinger, was jailed for six months for assault and disturbing the peace three years ago in Hebron. Jérusalem magistrates also fined him 8,000 shekels (£1,400) as part of a plea bargain. Levinger was convicted of disturbing Muslim prayers at Hebron's Tomb of the Patriarchs and for blocking an army commander from entering the nearby Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba. (AP)

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Asia appeals for global aid to steady markets

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN KUALA LUMPUR

cludes Japan, China and

South Korea, yesterday wit-

nessed the ringgit fall to an

embarrassing all-time low

point against the US dollar. He called for greater efforts by

the United States, Europe and

Japan to ease global market

damentals of the regional

economies being corrected and improved through the

support and advice of the International Monetary Fund,

the depreciation of the curren-

cies has continued unabated,"

Dr Mahathir said. This has

able to price rises because

they contain imported ingre-

dients. Yesterday Korean tele-

vision showed pictures of

shoppers queueing ten-deep at check-outs of discount

stores. Some were pushing

two or three trolleys together.

The panic, which began to sweep across South Korea a

few days ago, comes as the

currency, the won, struggled

plunge to 3 per cent.

Korean shoppers

rush to beat rises

FROM JENNIFER VEALE IN SEOUL

"Despite the economic fun-

THE once proud leaders of the former tiger economies of South-East Asia, reeling from falling stock markets and plummeting currencies, yes-terday called for international assistance in helping to curb the financial crisis gripping

Even as Asian leaders met at the summit here, the Malaysian ringgit, the Thai baht and the Indonesian rupiah fell to record lows, in the latter case over continuing fears for the health of President Suharto, 76.

In a bid to reassure his countrymen. President Suharto has been shown on Indonesian television, but he remained seated. Some Indonesians fear that their leader, known to have wanted to attend the current crisis resulted in serious regression summit of the Association of in the economic well-being of

PANIC buying is sweeping

South Korea, emptying super-

markets of daily staples as

people try to beat prices rises

stemming from the deepening

financial crisis. "It is a war

mentality and Koreans are

preparing for war," says Pro-

fessor Hahm Chai Bong, a

political scientist at Seoul's

Yonsei University. "It's an

Imported and local prod-

ucts are disappearing from shelves or rocketing in price

as consumers hoard provi-

sions and shops bump up prices to cover mounting for-

scurrying to buy in bulk flour,

sugar and noodles, valuer-

Korean housewives are

eign exchange losses.

social

interesting

South-East Asian Nations, the countries, their businesses (Asean), had suffered a stroke. and their peoples," he said, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir hinting at the threat to social Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister hosting the stability caused by the turmoil in financial markets. summit which this time in-

As the summit got under way yesterday at the luxurious Palace of the Golden Horses resort - somewhat at odds with the austerity the region will inevitably face — the Malaysian leader, 71, said that every effort should be made to remove barriers to trade and to promote greater trade and investment within Asean. However, the grouping was not trying to establish a trad-ing bloc. The wealth of our countries is depleted and we no longer have the money to pay for goods imported from overseas," he said. Malaysians have been encouraged to plant vegetables in their gar-

dens and conserve resources. The IMF has arranged loans for the region totalling \$100 billion (£61.8 billion), but Asean leaders believe more is needed because currencies remain weak and investor confidence low. Moreover, there appears to be growing unease about the way the IMF is helping the region and Dr Mahathir believes that some of the IMF strategies should be reconsidered. He accused the IMF of looking at the macro-economic picture only. and not seeing the impact of its measures.

The three-day summit meeting was intended as a 30th anniversary party for Asean. But it was transformed into the present crisis summit with the region's financial turmoil at the top of the agenda.

yesterday to regain lost ground. It closed significant-President Jiang Zemin of ly higher at 1503.9 to the US dollar, but has lost nearly half China told the summit leaders that Asia's financial upheavals had "taught people a profound lesson". Economic its dollar value this year. The stock market rebounded, but development would improve further recovery is unlikely once East Asian nations had with economic growth set to learnt the lesson, and had the necessary readjustments.



HMS Nottingham, with 250 servicemen on a rest and recreation sojourn, sails into the Victoria Harbour yesterday to become the first British warship to visit Hong Kong after the transfer of sovereignty to China

Hong Kong democrat cuts UK link

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

EMILY LAU, Hong Kong's most vigorous and popular democrat, said yesterday that she will give up her British passport to run for the Legisla-

tive Council next year.

The law requires all candidates for direct election not to have foreign passports. I want to stand for direct election," she said.

Hong Kong will next year hold its first elections for the council since the transfer of sovereignty to China. Since the handover the present 60 members, selected by a 400member committee appointed by Beijing, have been passing laws. They replaced the wholly elected body which the new Government expunged.

Under the Basic Law, China's mini-constitution for Hong Kong, there will be a series of four-yearly elections passports.

Emily Lau: will fight direct elections

which may culminate in 2007 with a completely elected body and even chief executive.

One third of the seats in next ear's election will be directly elected in accordance with a proportional representation system which many here charge was devised by Beijing

to limit the number of democratically inclined candidates like Ms Lau to 12, instead of the 24 in the last elected council. The remaining 40 seats will be elected by functional constituencies," based on occupation, some of which are very small, or by an election committee of Beijing allies. Twelve of the "functional" members may hold foreign

Next year's council, like the present one, will therefore consist of many members defeated by democrats in 1995, although a public opinion poll published yesterday by the South China Morning Post showed that, if there were an immediate first-past-the-post election, democrats would win

a substantial majority. Ms Lau is determined to win one of the 20 directly elected seats, for which she must abandon her British

citizenship, acquired in the

1980s. Before the handover she had often given a warning that she might leave Hong Kong. Instead she formed the Frontier Party, which stands for an immediately elected council and chief executive by a oneman, one-vote system.

In all public opinion polls during the past five years Ms Lau, 45, a council member until July, scored in the top three most popular political figures, and even without a seat she has maintained her constituency office and rousing political style.

A graduate of the University of Southern California and the LSE, until her election to the council in 1991 Ms Lau was one of Hong Kong's most outspoken journalists, a constant thorn in the side of British politicians of whom she demanded immediate and total democracy.

Hun Sen's tanks pound rival's bastion

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN BANGKOK

HUN SEN, the Cambodian leader, yesterday launched an attack supported by tanks on the last bastion of his rival Co-Prime Minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in the northwest of the country, the

That military reported. The battle for the border town of O'Smach broke out early in the day and continued amid fierce firefights until the afternoon, sources in the Thai task force responsible for bor-der control said. "The fighting today was heavy," a military officer said.

The fighting broke out dur-ing an informal summit of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur. Cambodia had been due to join the nine-member grouping in July along with Laos, but its admission was postponed after the violent street battles which broke out in Phnom Penh, ousting the Prince.

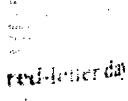
The latest fighting was led by fire from seven tanks under the command of the forces of Hun Sen, the Second Prime Minister, the sources said, adding "several" soldiers loyal to the Prince were sent for medical care in Thailand.

Five tanks fired on the last bastion of the Prince's troops in the stronghold of O'Smach. which lies on a hilltop straddling the border with Thailand. One of two other tanks which advanced a mile from O'Smach was reported to have been destroyed.

The fighting ended after several hours of heavy artillery exchanges between the two sides, the Thai army source said, adding that several shells had fallen within Thai territory. Casualty figures were not immediately available for either side.

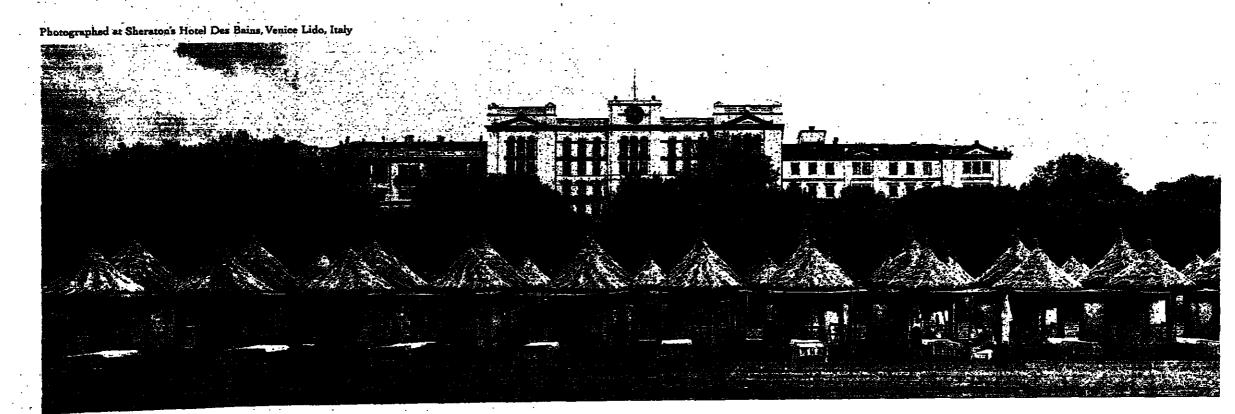
The two sides began battling in July, when Hun Sen ousted Prince Ranariddh after two days of battles in Phnom

ice challenge









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Who will save this child?

South African doctors can't save Dorah's eyes. Perhaps their British counterparts can. Bronwen Jones appeals urgently for help

have a friend called Dorah. She is three. They want to cut her eyes out. I know of only one way to save her from this terrible pain and loss, and that is to achieve worldwide levels of publicity that an injured child has never known. And to hope that some super-surgeon will be reached by that publicity and step in before it is too

Dorah lives in South Africa. The child of a child, she and her 14-year-old mother lived in a squatter camp with a blind grandmother and an alcoholic uncle. One day the shack called home caught fire. The seven-month-old baby struggled to breathe amid the flames and pushed fiery timbers away as they fell on her face. The heat burnt off her

I have tried to write about Dorah before, with limited success. Many iocal publications react as though disabled children are another species and barely, rarely. worth a mention. Whether harmed by biology or poor a fir-cone parenting, they are seen as a distasteful subject."Not

I have been visiting the hospital where Dorah lived for a long time. Week after week I wimessed the children poisoned by paraffin, hit by cars and caught beneath the fallen security gates that fence so many South African homes. Some had eaten poisoned berries or mushrooms, or been severely scalded as boiling pois of water fell from the stove. There were infants with pneumonia and two-year-olds with diarrhoea so bad that they might die.

And the parents who bothered to visit left me unconvinced that they would care for their children more wisely once — or if — they returned home. One father stood there, clothes torn and filthy, making jokes about "tying a knot in it". He had a babe in the pushchair, another was being held in his wife's arms and two blonde toddiers - who had been burnt from shoulder to knee - lying in hospital cots. All four children were under the age of five.

More chastening still were the abandoned ones. The beaming, perfectly healthy baby boy whose mother had died of tuberculosis - no relative ever came to claim her son. The Zulu-speaking five-year-old who went blind after meningitis. The family who brought her in never returned. She lay there asking: "When is Mama coming? Why is she taking so long?" No one answered her.

One day I was walking in the ward and I saw a big boy crying. He looked at least ten years old. The nurses ~ caring, but too busy to do more than the rudimentaries - said "Oh, that's Wilson. He was hit by a car and he's not quite right." They tapped the side of their heads.

I was handing out books when Wilson called me. "Come here, please," he said. I please," he said. I did. Then he said "Now turn round, please". When I did, he gently put his arms around my neck and his legs around my waist. As he clambered

on to my back, Wilson said "Take She likes to me away, please". But 1 didn't. I couldn't. If I were slide and to try to help one of swing, to them, which one would I choose? stroke a Well, it would have to be Dorah. dog or feel

you met Dorah. would be YOU our kind of story" echoes in my scared. Or cry. Or think that she's too awful to look at. But she's not. She just doesn't have

The ugliest duck-

ling, the most beautiful swan. If

Dorah wasn't born like that. She was born bonny. By character she still is. They didn't want to treat her at Baragwanath, the biggest hospital in the southern hemisphere, because they were so sure she would die. But Dorah is still alive and kicking. She has been fighting for survival against all the odds. A charred bundle delivered to the Far East Rand Hospital, no one but the little girl herself had faith that she could live.

It costs R500 a month (about E63 — or a month's wages here for a cleaner) to buy dressings for what is left of Dorah's eyes. She has a trust fund and there is some money to contribute to operations. But the wisdom. economic and medical, is to cut Dorah's eyes out.

Rob Douw, chief executive of African Merchant Bank and a Scot by birth, this week has offered to help to fund the cost of a carer for Dorah. "We are touched by her plight and want to help."

Plastic surgeons have studied her photographs. Dorah's case has been discussed on the Internet, And while they think that they can make her an aesthetically pleasing false nose and eventually imitate



A friend with three-year-old Dorah Moekena, the "ugliest duckling, the most beautiful swan" in South Africa

had a choice between knowing

darkness, we would certainly

I took a radio journalist to Dorah's third birthday party and her sweet laugh was heard across South Africa's

airwaves. But I cannot take a television crew because view-

ers are too accustomed to the

Barbie-doll-cute to cope with

But I wish they would. Because for a little girl who

can hear, taste, touch, smell and sing, the shades of light

and dark are as vital as all the

other senses for her vision of

the world. The lack of a nose

has not removed her ability to

sense smells. Take away her

eyes, and this child will be in the dark for ever. I do not

believe she can afford to lose

even one sense as she grows

Africa there are so many calls

on state time and money that a child like Dorah is considered

lucky just to get tender loving care. There is no money for a

dedicated therapist to stimulate her senses.

Dorah now lives among mentally disabled children in

a Catholic institution. She is as

bright as a button. She loves

music and tickles and running

blades of grass between her toes. With a little help, Dorah

can catch a ball and play pony by riding on the back of

another child. She likes to

slide and to swing, to stroke a dog or feel the strange shape of

a fir-cone. Linking cause and effect, she pushes the keys of

an electronic keyboard and

sings the notes. Wider keys

would suit her stumps better.

through the fire. She is proba-

bly the most badly burnt person

to survive such an ordeal. Now

her future is a vision of anguish,

looking into darkness. Surely

some doctor must have the

skills gained in a forgotten war or industrial accident that can rebuild the skin and bone around Dorah's face and let a

three-year-old keep her eyes? In

wiser words than I can pen. I

Like a phoenix, Dorah came

verywhere in the

world, the abled and

the disabled are kept

apart. And in South

into her uncertain future.

opt for the former.

Dr Leonard Pott, an anaesthetist and one of the medical specialists involved in Dorah's case, supports the removal of her eyes for medical and

logistical reasons. To some extent the problem is money, he concedes, but his main concern is that the home where Dorah lives does not have the staff to spend more

muscle to give her fake lips that will allow her a better range of speech, everyone has given up on the eyes.

than an hour a day dealing with her dressings. The staff are unhappy at the pain Dorah suffers when the

dressings are changed. The problem with the dressing necessary to keep the eyes moist is that some sort of adhesive has to be attached to the skin," says Dr Pott. "It is airtight, it pulls, it hurts to take it off and it itches to leave it on. It has to be on quite tight as the area is a high-risk site of infection. Dorah has already had low-grade infections in the

Dorah had no eyelids, and attempts to make some flaps from her skin to do the same job have so far failed because there was not enough tissue. The skin that remains on the surrounding area is scar tissue and has little blood flow.

"They would need to move the skin with its artery; it needs a pedicle, or root." Dr Pott ex-plains. "The skin of the eyelid is fed with blood from the top. It would die off without a blood supply. It also needs to be able to open and close."

If a way could be found to reconstruct Dorah's eyelids, it would be possible to give her a corneal transplant."If you can get help for Dorah from overseas, we would look at other options." says Dr Pott. "If anyone in Europe knows of appropriate artificial means to construct eyelids, we would like to know. We have models, photographs that we could send to them.

Dorah has plenty of per-sonality. She has a lovely character. She was neglected for quite a long time but then she was given intensive occu-pational therapy. Initially there was a big surge of improvement, but this was not sustained. There are strong reasons to take Dorah's eyes out. If we're wrong, we'll stand corrected. We don't know what else to do."

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Yet if you play with Dorah urge: "Do not go gentle into you know that she uses her that good night / Rage, rage eyes. She shades them from against the dying of the light. I don't write this as a doctor. I the sun, or from candle flames at Christmas. Light and dark are a part of her world and she

 Donations to help Dorah can be sent to Victor de Gray, Barclays Premier, 16 Rose Lane, Canteruses what is left of her sense of sight to understand and learn. By most definitions, Dorah bury, Kent CTI 2UR, or paid into any bank to account 30299065, is blind. But if any one of us sort code 30-17-92. Cheques should be payable to A Charity Appeal Fund for Dorah Moekena. whether it was night or day, or being plunged into permanent Bronwen Jones can be contacted by e mail: riuafrica@icon.co.za

Best ways to kill or cure a hangover

THE more the Christmas party season becomes established the greater the number of absentees from the café that serves breakfasts. Those who are there seem to prefer coffee to their usual eggs on toast

For many people, indi-gestion, with or without a hangover, is the inevitable price of late nights, rich food and rather more than the regulatory half bottle of wine. If the absent breakfast eaters had only managed some porridge or cornflakes with sweetened tea they would have had just what is needed to have made the office day tolerable.

A well planned evening may avoid any necessity of raiding the medicine class on returning home, or of avoiding breakfast next day. The preparation for an evening party should start

lunch, followed by a glass of milk, some cream or dipped in olive oil.

fore drinking may not only reduce the rate of absorp-tion of alcohol but could also prevent an attack of gout. Alcohol is particularly apt to precipitate gout if the drinker is starving before he starts at the bar. Eating the fattier foods on offer at a party, even if it

only means wolfing the smoked salmon sandwiches, delays stomach emptying and therefore alcohol absorption. Alcohol is absorbed faster from the first part of the intestine than through the stomach, so that the longer it stays there the less quickly the blood-alcohol level rises. Relax and be cheerful at

a party. Research pub-lished last year showed that people who were in a good mood while they were drinking were very much less likely to have a hangover than those who had been tense and grumpy throughout the evening.

A hangover is the result of transient damage to the nerve cells which cause a swelling of the brain, thereby contributing to the beadache. Drinking also induces a low blood sugar, and it is the hypoglycaemia which causes the sweating and the tremor, and is also a factor in the headache.

The severity of the hangover depends on the type of drink as well as the quantity of alcohol taken, whereof alcohol.

Rich food, alcohol and tension all tend to cause inflammation of the lining of the stomach and intestine and the result may be nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Once home those who have dined too well should drink at least a pint of water and take some antacids. possibly combined with a painkiller. The standard preparations include those made of sodium bicarbonate or their main constituent may be bismuth, aluminium or magnesium

In anticipation of a possible headache, many recparacetamol and sodium bicarbonate such as Alka Seltzer or Resolve.

> night with amount of alcohol causes reflux oeso-

phagitis. heartburn iscon, which floats like a soothing antacid raft on the stomach contents, offers great relief. People who are inconvenienced by the indigestion caused by reflux find that their life can be revolutionised by the taking of one or more of the

proton pump inhibitors, such as Losec, Protium or Zoton. Zantac and Tagamet are almost as efficient, and it is claimed that both are not only good at settling stomachs but may even prevent a headache in those people who are sensitive to some red wines or other dark drinks. In these cases, it is recommended that Tagamet is taken before drinking.

MORNING after coffee shouldn't be substituted for breakfast as it is a gastric irritant. In some cases, more drastic treatment is needed. Antacids and paracetamol can prove inadequate. Imodium to still the gut, and Maxolon to reduce nausea can be very effective.

This combination once enabled a very senior politician with whom I was travelling to look reasonably relaxed throughout a long meeting with the head of state of our host country. and it spared the politician the shame of having to make an undignified rush to the presidential lavatory.

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Paula-like mother, like daughter? like daughter?

A penchant for selling her story to the highest bidder seems to be a trait that Paula Yates has inherited from her mother, says Celia **Brayfield**

remember having a conversation with Paula Yates in a pub in Chelsea round about the time she met Bob Geldof. She was working as a cleaner for one of my friends, who ran a funky employment agency at the World's End and recalls her as a fetching little thing but inclined to stand in the bath (fully clothed) while cleaning it. One day Paula was dispatched to scrub for the Boomtown Rats, Geidof's band, and the rest was history.

Having found out that I was a journalist, Paula wanted my advice on using the media to attack her mother, saying that she hated her mother and wanted to sell the story of what a ghastly person she was to the News of the World or The Sun. I advised her to forget the whole thing, because the story was likely to make her look a bit of a cow.

Paula's outstanding gift is for redesigning her past, so I doubt that she remembers my advice, let alone wishes that she had taken it. At the time it was a bit like talking to a wall. because she was so consumed by blind, self-dramatising. adolescent hatred of her parents. It was more like trying to reason with Harry Enfield's "Kevin" character than with a nascent megagroupie flashing her first tattoo.

I got the idea that her was at that point I, being 14 years older than Paula, reckoned she would grow out of it. On that point, it seems, I was

ight now, the vacil-lating needle of public sympathy is pointing Paula's way. Losing a lover, Michael Hutchence, a man well placed in the rock pantheon and the father of her youngest child, is reckoned to be a trauma that trumps the plastic bosom and earlier episodes of ex-wife witchiness, such as chucking rocks through Bob Geldof's window. It also obliterates the shadows of doubt surround-Hutchence's sudden

Finding out that your bio-logical father is the oleaginous talent-show host Hughie Green and not the man you knew as Dad also appears to be an acceptable claim on the heart of the average Hello! reader - although it is doubtful whether any reader under the age of 40 appreciates quite how gruesome the Hughie Green legacy really is. In the media, however, no

tears are being shed and Paula is still on the Faustian blacklist of celebrities, famous for being famous, whose response to any life event is to sell the story to the highest bidder.

"She deserves everything she gets," said the columnist Richard Littlejohn this week on LWT's new newspaperbased show. The Sundays.



Paula Yates: the vacillating needle of public sympathy is pointing her way but the media are shedding no tears

ed and sah-ed for Paula as though she were an orphan kitten on Pet Rescue.

In treating what anyone else would call a private life as her act for the media circus, Paula seems to be a chip off the despised old block. The first response of her mother, the former showgirl Heller Thornton, to the revelation that her former husband, the disgraced television show host Jess Yates, was not Paula's father, was to say that she needed her agent's advice on placing the story of her own heartbreak

The most depressing thing about the drama of Paula's genetic heritage is that all the protagonists are so tacky. Yates and Green were so vulgar that they would have been at home on cable TV today. Yates, by Paula's account, was unstable, but at least took the responsibility for bringing her up after her mother - as Paula claims

abandoned her. Green, in the latest revela-



Heller Thornton: shares daughter's love of limelight

tions, was a sexually incontinent megalomaniac. Thornton stands accused of putting her social life before the care of her infant daughter and taking Geldof's side in the divorce. "How can she be so cruel?" demands Paula, self-orientated as ever. The possibility that

her mother may have genuinely believed Paula was Yates's child does not seem to have occurred to her.

Hating your parents is something that you are eventually supposed to get over. Usually, people do so once they have become parents

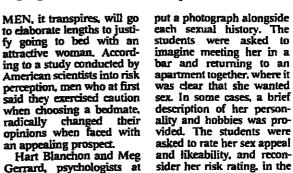
maturational experience. Paula has now crossed this life-passage four times in 13 years — with Fifi Trixibelle, Peaches, Pixie and Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily - but remains a puella eterna. Maybe the next stage - turning into the despised parent - will

do the trick. In yesterday's "heart-open-ing" to The Sun, she moans: "It gave me comfort to picture Jess and Michael jamming in Heaven ... now that's been tarnished and ruined." But her daughters have also lost a grandparent, by her own account a loving one.

The girls might prefer privacy - they deserve at least the right to choose privacy, rather than having notoriety thrust upon them in childhood. It can't be long before at least one of Paula's daughters hits the Kevin stage, renames her-self Jane and decides she hates her mother. The difference, in this generation, is that people

Anjana Ahuja reports on men, pretty women and sex

Men and the **50** ways they justify their lovers



Hart Blanchon and Meg Gerrard, psychologists at Iowa State University, enlisted the help of 40 male undergraduates. The students were given information about nine women, such as the number of past lovers and whether condoms had been used. They were then asked to judge the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease or HIV. The men were led to believe that the women were

"target" had eight previous sexual partners but played the clarinet and enjoyed classical music, the students at the same university. would revise their risk esti-Next, the psychologists



People are more maileable than health educators think

put a photograph alongside each sexual history. The students were asked to could be another explanation: perhaps men subcon-sciously believe that pretty imagine meeting her in a bar and returning to an women are less likely to be disease carriers. apartment together, where it was clear that she wanted Dr Blanton and Dr sex. In some cases, a brief

Gerrard said in Health Psychology that they found their results "disturbing". Their study, subtitled There Must be 50 Ways to Justify a Lover, used only photouce sexual motivation.

"At no point were the participants led to believe that they would have the woman, the more the risk opportunity to interact with the targets, much less have sexual intercourse with information which, in their

The experimental motivation used here was "weak in comparison to the one that occurs in the bedroom". They conclude that people are far more malleable than health educators think.

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rating plummeted. Subjects

were more likely to engage

in high-risk sex if they had

eyes, justified their changed

beliefs. For example, if the



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Look Left and beware, Mr Blair

Anatole Kaletsky warns

Labour of a new coalition

t is more or less a law of political ecology that, however universal the popularity of a new Government, and however impregnable its parliamentary majority, opposition parties evolve to chip away its supporters and to create new subdivisions among its coalition of support. As a result, landslide elections which seem to confer a monopoly of power are almost invariably followed by equally dramatic electoral serbacks. These reversals of fortune remind hubristic politicians that the concept of a "natural party of government is one

which democracy abhors.
When Tony Blair's predictable landslide was followed by the more surprising disintegranon of the Tories as a serious political force, it became difficult to imagine what realignment of British politics could possibly undermine the new Labour hegemony. For Labour to be unseated, even in ten years' time, somebody would have to come up with a plausible answer to the reassuring question that Mr Blair must chant to himself instead of counting sheep whenever he suffers a sleepless night: what political force could possibly challenge new Labour as Britain's natural party of govern-

Even to think about this question so soon after the Labour triumph may be premature. But last week's fiasco over single-parent benefits, which will be followed in the new year by far bigger battles over disability benefits, child benefits and housing allowances, suggest the possibility of a very unexpected answer. The real opposition to Labour. could come from the Left, not the Right.

I am not suggesting that Mr Blair might be unseated by a shift to the Left. Voters are unlikely to move any further Left than they did at the last election, when the Tories were reduced to their lowest percentage of the popular vote since 1832. If anything, a modest drift back to the Right is more likely.

What, then, is the threat to new Labour? It is that voters will stay exactly where they are, but that Mr Blair will move so far to the Right that he leaves them high and dry. with nobody to carry out the policies they thought they were supporting in the last election. By the laws of political ecology, political factions will then realign to build coalitions around these disenfranchised voters until the point is reached when support for Government and Opposition is back roughly in balance. The outcome could be a free-market Labour Party. which is clearly of the libertarian Right, as in New Zealand, opposed on the Left by a coalition of social democratic Liberals and paternalistic

"One Nation" Tories. The Left in this context can be simply defined as the political direction that favours higher spending on welfare, education, health and other public goods, financed, if necessary, by higher taxes. The Right, by contrast, follows the guiding principle of the Thatcher and Reagan period: that government should bear down as far as possible on

both public spending and taxes, at least as a proportion

of national income Under this definition of political polarities, the possibility of a major realignment becomes clearer. First, it is notable that the last election produced a decisively leftwing outcome in this sense. Whatever Mr Blair may have said about his intentions on taxes and public spending, 86 per cent of voters (according to Gallup) believed that Labour would raise taxes. And given that the Liberal Democrats were absolutely explicit about their desire to raise taxes, 69 per cent of the electorate supported parties identified

with higher tax. How, then, does Mr Blair explain his refusal to give these voters what they expected and presuambly wanted? The Government's spending any actually achieved by the Tories. To explain his tight-fistedness. Mr Blair continually claims that "there is no money" and that "tough spending targets" have to be

But spending targets have no objective validity. They were set by a hated Tory Government. And the claim that the Government is short of money is refuted by the Treasury's own figures. Mai-colm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat economic spokesman, has cleverly (and accurately) reinterpreted these to show a potential "war chest" of at least £50 billion available for a public spending or tax-cutting splurge in the last year of the Parliament.

Barring another episode of economic mismanagement comparable to the ERM disaster, large amounts of money should therefore be available by the end of the Parliament. This money could either be given away as tax cuts or spent on improving public services, even without any further cutbacks in welfare benefits, student grants. or other draconian reforms. And even if there were no extra money available, the Government would always have the option of raising taxes.

This is a point which the Liberal Democrats are starting to get across to the public. And even some Tories could join the attack on new Labour from the Left. Just as John Redwood was able to open a populist flank against John Major by promising to save cottage hospitals, William Hague could, if he were sufficiently nimble, attack new Labour on disability benefits (which, after all, increased massively under the Tories). He could also try to inoculate voters against the pre-electoral bribery planned for the second half of the Parliament.

Should the Government be allowed to slash public services today to accumulate a war chest for buying votes just before the election - especially if today's cuts irreparably damage established institutions or inflict hardship on those in greatest need?

In the years ahead, the Left in Britain - be they Liberal Democrats, Labour rebels or imaginative Tories - could certainly have an interesting



"Hear me!"cried the Ghost. "My time is nearly gone."

Let Santa be child's play

amily democracy is all very well, but we have been forced to take a firm line with the junior members this year. We have made it plain that their parents are not yet sufficiently mature to accept that they are too old for stockings. Just because your chick stays up later than you do and has Size 13 feet, we tell them, that is no reason for anybody to go round questioning Father Christmas.

Certain concessions may be made - there comes a stage when a mother must bravely face her duty to slip in a CD of Slap My Bitch Up among the tangerines and magic tricks -- but otherwise this Santa's not for turning. They can be as cool and teenage as they like, but we shall go on putting sooty boot-prints and reindeer-chewed carrots by the fireplace,

I confess this private soppiness to offset the fact that I am about to say some Scroogey things. Because there comes a point when even Mrs Soppy has to speak out against the drivelling infantilism advancing on the British Christmas. The latest example is the threat by a woman in Rochdale to sue Asda because her son pulled their Santa's beard and got an alleged smack. The employee says it was an accident and has now "asked to be relieved of Santa duties". The child has been given a large box of chocolates (let us hope for bearded men's sake that he does not get the wrong message here) but his mother is reported to have consulted a solicitor and considered litigation because her son is "heartbroken".

Bah, humbug. This brat is eight years old, not three. The beardtugging was apparently caused by his confusion at having seen a towncentre Santa a few minutes earlier and being surprised to find another one in Asda. This forces me reluctantly to conclude that his mother is behaving foolishly. It is stupid to allow a child to walk around a modern British town centre under the delusion that every grimy red suit and cottonwool beard is the same mythic person. Any parent with any sense makes it perfectly clear from the earliest age that the real Santa is a nocturnal, magical, rarely spotted creature and that the harassed figures in shops, parties and Lions Club charity sleighs are just "helpers" adults play-acting for the fun of it. Small children spend half their time dressing up as Batman and are therefore perfectly capable of graspFather Christmas is losing his role in innocent family fun to become a

stooge for emotionally retarded adults

ing the concept of festive charade. But there are far too many public Santas, anyway. A splendid American academic, Professor Jim Hoot, of the early childhood research centre at the school of education at Buffalo, New York, has studied his local shopping centre and pronounced that bringing small children to Santa's grotto can be a form of child abuse. The experience of being perched on the knee of a disguised stranger is distressing, especially when you can't see your parents. He reports cases of children panicking as they are thrust

into the Santa's arms, and soberly

suggests (God bless American academics) that when the child is under 18 months old the parent should sit firmly knee for reassur-

A member of the local false-beard set confirmed Professor Hoot's view: "I remember times

when I could feel the child just shaking in my arms," he said. And a store helper in one grotto where photos are taken said that the parents sometimes seem not to care whether the child is frightened or not. They are brutal . . . it's like if they didn't get a picture they were going to beat the

It all gets clearer, does it not? We are the infantile ones, not the children. Before the age of commercial hype and emotionally retarded adults, the Father Christmas story and its international variants could take their proper place as a piece of affectionate family fun. It is good when parents give without taking any credit for it, and share in a sense of wonder and universal benevolence and saturnalian mischief ("He's bought you a My Little Pony? Eugh! I said I'd never have one of those things in the house, but oh well, since it's Santa... What's that? A whoopee cushion? Oh, the vulgar old man! Realiy!") It is a good joke, and in sane families is taken as such; the gradual dawning of the truth is accepted in good part by the children, who then graciously permit foolish, fond old parents to carry on well beyond the

limit of reason. Nor need such fantasy be expensive. Here is an extreme example: in his autobiography Bare Feet and Tackety Boots, Archie Cameron wrote of a painfully poor childhood on the Isle of Rhum before the First World War, and dwelt happily on the Christmas his parents made for their seven children. A bugle would sound in the distance when his father had "stepped out for a moment" on Christmas Eve: its sound rose and fell, as if aboard a

passing sleigh. The next day the stockings would bulge, mainly with coloured paper and only a few poor toys. But Archie Cameron's parents put spirited energy into proving that a magical person had

called: "There would be perhaps a mutton bone, with quite a bit of meat on it, behind the door where 'he' had dropped it. An orange fallen from his bag, even a scone with plenty of butter and jam on it, and even a few rare sweets were found by my mother, who excitedly drew our attention to them. What a careless man he must be, she would say, to pick up and drop these things as he rummaged about the house!' Somebody's trousers would be tied in a knot, so 'he' must have had a sense of humour. All these diversions quickly made us forget our disappointment over the missing toys, toys we had hoped for but never really expected

Cameron does not romanticise poverty, and nor should anybody. Yet

e says firmly: We were not a bit envious of our friends' toys when we saw them in daylight; after all, anyone can hang a popgun on the end of a bed. There was nothing personal about that, but we had positive proof that 'he' had been in our house." "I do not believe in Santa Claus now," wrote the old

man, but I do believe in a father and mother who, during those anxious and frustrating times, made every effort to ensure that their children had all the thrills and beauty of the Christmas season." Magic had been carefully made, and made with a genuine understanding of children's needs and enjoyments: of the neurotic, spoiling, spending parents of today, how many of us can claim as

Something sinister and unpleasant is happening to Christmas: not just the oft-bewailed commercial profiteering, but a worse change. It is dramatised by stories of parents brutally thrusting their frightened infants onto the lap of a shop Santa just so they can get a sweet picture. It is apparent in the idiocy of a family's threatening to go to law because they pretend to think their child's "inno-cence is gone" because a stressed-out store employee in a false beard may or may not have given him a well-

earned slap.

The difference is that today the adults — having abandoned the serious joy of the religious Christmas - in their immaturity and sentimentality are colonising the children's. We batten on images of "innocence" and mawkish fantasies of childhood perfection because we, the adults, are fearful and rudderless and disap-pointed and emotionally needy. Sometimes we take it too far. To upset your real child for the sake of a perfect picture of him with Santa is a perversion; to resent your real child for spoiling your pretty, perfect Christmas tableau is little better.

matter. Plenty of the worst offenders are the most affluent: the people who spend fortunes dressing their unwilling children in velvet and tartan to pose round the tree for upmarket glossy magazines, who lavish absurd largesse on babies too young to care about anything but the box, who sleep all night outside toyshops to bag a Teletubby so that no hope shall ever be disappointed. Except, of course, the hope that your parents might stay around and play with you. No: the more I think about it all the tackier this parental infantilism seems. I may even change my mind and allow a democratic vote after all on the Teenage Santa question. With luck, they will still let me have my way. Children are very mature about

these things, unlike their parents.

This is by no means a class

Your right to know is it real?

Magnus Linklater finds Robinson's

secrets still safe

favourite story about open government is told by a former colleague who was in Washington researching a defence story. Having got lost in the Pentagon, he finally plucked up the courage to knock on an office door and found himself confronting a five-star general. Before he could apologise and retreat, the general had ushered him to a seat, and announced: "So long as you're here

what can I tell you?" It's hard to imagine anything similar happening at our own dear Ministry of Defence. But if last week's White Paper on freedom of information means what it says, all that is going to change. "Experience overseas consistently shows the importance of changing the culture through requiring 'active' disclo-sure," it says at one point, "so that public authorities get used to making information publicly available in the normal course of their activities."

This has a fine ring to it. The timing, however, is a little unfortunate. It comes just as a Treasury minister finds himself having to adopt the familiar tactic of suppression rather than disclosure in the face of an embarrassing story which shows every sign of spiralling out of control. Close reading of the White Paper, titled Your Right to Know, suggests that details of Geoffrey Robinson's financial affairs would, in fact, be protected under the terms of any new Act. Chapter Four specifically refers to the need to defend individuals from "unwarranted invasion of personal privacy".

On the other hand, any exchanges of correspondence with the Treasury could well be accessible as public documents, together with details they might contain of Mr Robinson's offshore trust. Public interest is cited as a balancing factor to personal privacy, and the independent commissioner to be set up to hear appeals can call for any documents he wants.

This emphasis on openness as the guiding principle is emphasised throughout a remarkably radical White Paper. It challenges British attitudes which have become deeply ingrained in local councils, in police stations, on quangos and on statutory bodies. Can they be changed? It's hard to imagine Sir Humphrey felling a subordinate: "I don't care what the minister says, I want those briefing papers out on the Internet

Converting the Sir Humphreys as well as the town hall bureaucrats is, reactions to the White Paper have been favourable. To judge by the Campaign for Freedom of Information's checklist, it scores impressively well, at some points even going beyond the CFI's own recommendations. For instance, the campaign's "harm test", to be applied in the case of any exemptions (ie, would disclosure cause harm?), becomes "substantial harm" in the White Paper a significantly tougher definition.

The CFI argues for a "public interest override" to set against attempts to withhold information; the White Paper states baldly that the public interest "is an essential element in determining the right to know".

The exception — and it is a faintly depressing one — is the exclusion of the security services from any Freedom of Information Act. Given the sometimes maverick behaviour of Britain's intelligence agencies, it is hard to see why they should continue to be regarded as totally immune

from scrutiny.

And how effective would the new proposals have been when applied to some of the causes célébres of the past? The Crossman Diaries, which were eventually published in the teeth of Cabinet Office resistance in 1975, might easily have been suppressed under the present White Paper's terms. When it comes to Cabinet discussions, governments need "a degree of privacy", it says. The facts behind the sinking of the Belgrano could still have been secret because disclosure about operational matters may cause "substantial harm" to the national interest. And the Government could have withheld the famous DTI memo which led to the resignation of Leon Brittan during the Westland scandal, because to have released it would have been "random and premature disclosure of its deliberations".

Il of these all took place during A the Wilson and Thatcher Gov-ernments, both highly centralised and paranoid about leaked information. It was during those years that the Civil Service was declared virtually "off-limits" for journalists. It would be premature to suggest that this might also become true of Tony Blair, who has written the foreword to Your Right to Know. endorsing its campaign against "the perception of obsessive secrecy" and

its "corrosive influence". Yet, given Downing Street's attitude towards unfriendly elements of the media, and the insistence on discipline within the party, nothing suggests that freedom of information is a natural instinct among Mr Biair's team. It, too, will have to change if the aims of the White Paper are to be realised. The test for me will come when I confront a British

Journey's end

story to tell.

EMMA NICHOLSON, the Liberal grandette, is embroiled in a nasty dispute over the proceeds from Katiza's Journey, the book she collaborated on detailing allegations made by one of Winnie Mandela's former bodyguards. Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne agreed to cooperate with the author. Fred Bridgland, on the understanding that the profits would be split equally. Her share would be held in trust for Katiza Cebekhulu, the erstwhile bodyguard, whom she brought to England for

safety in 1991 and who remains her ward. But Bridgland is claiming that Cebekhulu wants his money now, while Nicholson complains that she has been left out of pocket. The South African, who claims to have witnessed beatings and murders by Mrs Mandela and her supporters, disappeared just before her conviction for the kidnap and assault of Stompie Moeketsi. He soon re-emerged under Emma's protection. The book, for which Nicholson wrote the foreword, was published last month.

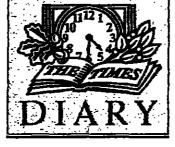
With a possible lucrative film deal, Cebekhulu is said to be complaining of receiving only "pocket money" from Nicholson and is demanding the book's copyright. Bridgland says: "Katiza has told me that he plans to return to Africa, because he doesn't have enough money. If he doesn't get the proceeds. he can't make a go of things." Nicholson admits that she has fallen out with the author.



Fee foes: Winnie, Nicholson

"Katiza is quite comfortable," she says. "He has not said this to me. I find it very unfair, and difficult to understand. I have worked hard on his behalf — but the debts we have incurred looking after him exceed our proceeds from the book." South Africa seems quite tranquil by comparison.

 DEAR Lord Irvine of Lairg may see himself (in jest, of course) as Cardinal Wolsey, but colleagues have a different perspective. It



seems his love of writing — usually stiff notes of complaint — has earned him the sobriquet "Samuel Pepvs", after that diarist's addiction to the written word.

Let's party

NOT since the late Duke of Northumberland ravished Barbara Carrera on his banquene have spirits been so high at Syon House, in Richmond: his younger brother - quiet, retiring - threw a party for his daughter Katie, 15, on Saturday. Partying at Syon is not cheese straws and weak shandy: 120 of Katie's chums - Charlie (son of the Duke of Roxborough). Flora (daughter of Jeremy Soames). Edwina (daughter of Lord Palmer) - were greeted with buck's fizz on arrival before further

depleting the duke's cellars. Par-

ents kept a low profile. "We were told to keep out of the way."

● MORE party news. The cast of Hello! — Ivana Trump, Isabel Kristensen - descended on Duns Castle, in Berwickshire, for a charity ball last night. Problem. There weren't enough beds. "We rigged up caravans," says a distressed organiser. "I took a group of 70 up on the train and I told them all to bring sleeping bags."

Down the Tube

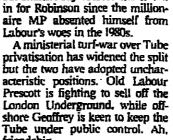
FOR a beefy performer, John Prescott's defence of Geoffrey Robinson was a shade wimpish. Why? Lab-

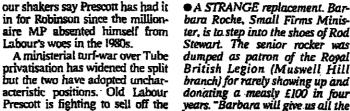






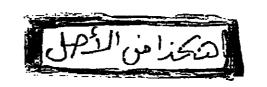
keen to get involved but the fee's the problem." One problem, anyway.





bara Roche, Small Firms Minister, is to step into the shoes of Rod Stewart. The senior rocker was dumped as patron of the Royal British Legion (Muswell Hill branch) for rarely showing up and donating a measly £100 in four years. Barbara will give us all the attention we need," says a legion-

JASPER GERARD general in his lair and he invites me in to riffle through his in-tray.





MINISTERIAL INCAPACITY

The Government is letting its case go by default

One of the hallmarks of a civilised society is that it helps those who are unable to care for themselves. In Britain, the disabled can rely on state benefits for support; in most developing countries, they are reduced to begging on the streets. To many Labour MPs, that is the end of the argument. It should, however, be only the beginning.

Those who question the increased burden on the State of sickness and disability benefits do not have hearts of stone. Claims of this type have risen faster than any other category — costing the taxpayer £23.5 billion last year compared with just £4.1 billion in 1982 — and the benefits now account for 27 per cent of the total social security budget. A moment's thought should find this odd: why, over a period when the nation has become healthier, should spending on sickness and disability have escalated?

The answer is that, for many, living on these benefits has become a substitute for taking early retirement or joining the ranks of the long-term unemployed on income support. Britain has a very low unemployment rate relative to other European countries, but it has more "disabled" people than it has claimants of official unemployment benefit. The teacher who leaves her job early, citing stress, may well end up on incapacity benefit, while claiming her occupational pension. Unlike jobseekers' allowance, the benefit is not time-limited, nor is it means-tested; though after a period, claimants have to be prepared to take a job other than the one they had before.

The rules for incapacity benefit were rightly tightened by Peter Lilley when he was Social Security Secretary. Now independent assessors, rather than claimants' own GPs. have to test the extent of the incapacity. And this Government has introduced home visits from a "benefit integrity project", to

check that long-term claimants still deserve the array of benefits that they receive.

No one denies that those who are genuinely incapable of work and at risk of poverty should be supported by the State. It seems unlikely that the Government would want to penalise them. But there are many claimants of disability benefits who have other sources of income and could afford, say, to pay tax on any money they receive from the State. In 1994-95, 70 per cent of those claiming invalidity benefit or the severe disablement allowance were well-off enough not to qualify for income support. This compares with just 13 per cent of unemployed people and 35 per cent of lone parents. Yet most disability benefits are

neither means-tested nor taxed. Ministers could also justify exploring other ways of financing a safety net for the long-term sick or disabled. Only three months ago, the independent Social Security Advisory Committee, whose job it is to advise the Government, suggested that the burden of providing for sickness and disability could be shifted to employers. employees and private insurance plans. If the risks were spread among all employees of a company, the level of premiums would be affordable. Such an approach would abolish at a stroke the disincentives to return

to work that are inherent in state benefits. The case for reform is almost unanswerable. Yet, because the exact nature of the reforms has not yet been finalised, ministers have been parrying defensively, rather than going on the attack. If they do not fight back soon, their opponents will win by default. "Compassion with a hard edge" surely means helping those who need it, and encouraging self-reliance for the rest. There is nothing to be ashamed of in that approach: ministers should argue it with conviction.

STILL STALLING

Iraq cannot be allowed to obstruct UN inspectors

Less than four weeks after he had allegedly relented, Saddam Hussein is once more challenging the work of the United Nations Special Commission (Unscom) in Iraq. His public promise that those teams would be allowed to fulfil their mission in an unimpeded fashion has proved worthless. Richard Butler, the Australian who heads the UN effort, yesterday conducted another set of predominantly fruitless talks with Tariq Aziz, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister. After that, Mr Butler offered a blunt and had believed that his four-day mission to Baghdad this week would prove a "defining moment" in the relationship between Iraq and the outside world. That may turn out to be true but not for the reasons anticipated.

The central issue during the last dispute was the composition of the inspection units themselves. Saddam sought to remove all United States nationals from them. Some belated solidarity among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council did persuade the Iraqi dictator to withdraw that threat. It still remains his ambition to dilute the American presence. His failure on that front has now led Saddam back to familiar territory: the simple refusal to allow the UN access to areas of suspicious activity.

Iraq has, unilaterally, divided these into three categories: "normal" sites where external inspection is broadly tolerated but hardly assisted; "sensitive" sites where the UN may or may not be allowed to look; and "presidential" sites from which it is completely excluded. This, as Mr Butler has rightly argued, is in contradiction of the various Security Council resolutions that iraq accepted at the end of the Gulf War and the pledge that it made to Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, last month.

This is only the most overt element in a continuing pattern of Iraqi obstruction. Mr Butler noted yesterday that he had learnt nothing new from Mr Aziz about Baghdad's biological weapons programme and was still uncertain about the extent of Iraq's VX nerve gas stockpiles. What Iraq has and where it is hidden remains, seven years after its initial invasion of Kuwait, a matter more of speculation than calculation. All available evidence is that Saddam Hussein is at least as dangerous today as he was before his rces were muted by the All

It remains to be seen whether the UN Security Council will respond with any real vigour. Saddam has decided that he can afford to allow UN inspectors to stay in Iraq. but as little more than an inconvenience. while Russia, China and France continue their campaign to ease sanctions against him. Iraq will have realised that the United States and Britain are all but alone in their willingness to contemplate military action. That will have encouraged Saddam to continue with his chosen strategy of selective co-operation. He does not believe that sanctions will be tightened or airstrikes undertaken if his "palaces" - buildings that often resemble an industrial estate rather more than Versailles - remain inaccessible.

The United Nations must support its own commission. The Security Council should not alter the arrangements under which Saddam makes limited sales of oil - or consider other concessions - until inspection inside Iraq is ensured. If not, Unscom will be impotent. The UN has suffered in the past six months as certain countries have softened their stand on sanctions. Saddam must be convinced that at least some members of the international community still have the stomach to take him on.

WEDDING BLUES

No room at the crypt this Christmas for the passed-over

Last week Tony Blair discovered that huge majorities can create unexpectedly big headaches. This week William Hague is finding out what Kate Moss already knows, even a tiny rump can be too big sometimes. Although he has only 160-odd, some suggest very odd, MPs left to lead he still cannot invite them all to his wedding in the Commons crypt this Friday. Although a wedding in a crypt may seem as bizarre a conjunction of event and venue as a Yorkshireman at the Notting Hill Carnival, the Commons' own basement has been the traditional backdrop for many parliamentarians plighting troths and, in due course, when a boy or girl is born, christening the little Liberal or Conservative.

In choosing to marry in the bowels of Westminster Mr Hague and Flion Jenkins are genuflecting in seemly fashion to tradition, just as they are by including on their wedding list that unfairly mocked utensil the fishknife. The fishknife is one bourgeois creation where the benefits are obvious rather than discretionary. It, like the Teasmade, combines efficiency with charm and as such is an entirely appropriate model

for Mr Hague's new Toryism. For all the symbolism of gift and crypt there will still be Conservatives inclined to dismuss the nuances of the wedding list because they did not make it onto the invitation list. It is a problem every couple face when the congratulations flood in after the announcement on the Court and Social page - many call but few can be chosen.If

Mr Hague and his affianced had opted for a bigger church to accommodate their guests. Westminster Abbey perhaps, or St Paul's, then they might have been accused of delusions of grandeur. As Pfion well knows, social showiness is not the Welsh way.

A hilltop wedding might have been a Bardic compromise, allowing as many guests as possible to offer their best wishes under the vault of heaven. But lamely repeating the words dictated by a preacher while surrounded by sheep would have looked like a homage to new Labour. As with his stance on the single currency, so with his choice of wedding venue: having eliminated all the superficially attractive options only one course remains - and if some MPs object then that is unfortunate, but they will only look foolish if they go public with their complaints.

Nevertheless, as with the single currency, steps can taken to soften the blow for unhappy colleagues. Lord Parkinson has organised a party for all those MPs who cannot be fitted into the crypt - a feast for the passed-over. Perhaps a piece of wobbly chocolate wedding cake can be handed round all the non-invitees as an inclusive gesture - the disgruntled in the Tory party have grown used to making do with a constantly shifting fudge. Kenneth Clarke could take it with hard cheese and sour grapes. The rest of us will content ourselves with raising a glass to Ms Jenkins and Mr Hague and hoping that their honeymoon ends more sweetly than the Government's.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Crime Bill 'attack on civil rights'

From the Director of the Howard League

Sir, On December 16 the Crime and Disorder Bill will have its second reading in Parliament. It includes three significant changes to the criminal law which have not been publicly debated.

The antisocial behaviour order is vague and could be used against people who are simply different. Local councils will have virtually unlimited discretion to seek highly restrictive orders using civil law procedures, leading to criminal penalties of up to five years in prison.

The detention and training order means that a child as young as 12 could be held in a youth prison, and the Home Secretary will have the power to reduce that to 10-year-olds. Girls of this age could go to adult women's prisons. The Government is ignoring the fact that in recent years some 35 teenagers have taken their own lives in prisons.

The Bill's abolition of doli incapax means that primary school age children will be treated the same as adults by the courts, expected to comprehend fully the implications of their actions and the court procedure.

This Bill could turn out to be one of the most sweeping attacks on civil rights this century, resulting in a dramatic use of prison custody for children and anyone identified as different and difficult.

Yours faithfully, FRANCES CROOK, Director, The Howard League for Penal Reform. 708 Holloway Road, N19 3NL December 11.

'Two-flag' Gibraltar

From Mr Mike Gilbert

Sir, Many years ago, when in a position of overwhelming strength, Britain twisted a foreign power's arm and took a small piece of their land purely for military reasons. In a more enlightened age we cannot face up to our responsibility to hand back Gibraltar, even though it rightly belongs to a democratic monarchy, an economic partner and a military ally.

There are difficulties but they are not insurmountable, and the population of Gibraltar may find, as thousands of expatriate Brits have found, that modern Spain is not such a bad place to live. The Spanish regions have a considerable influence over their destiny, economy and culture

Those in favour of British sovereignty may say that to return Gibraltar to Spain would ignore the wishes of the Gibraltarians - a people who are of Spanish descent and who speak a Spanish dialect.

We recently handed back Hong Kong in the face of the prophets of doom, and that was to a belligerent dictatorship with, from our point of view, an appalling human rights record. It seems OK so far.

Tony Blair and Robin Cook (letter, December II) should actively be seeking an accommodation with Spain to get the best deal for Gibraltar and give it back, despite the "little Englander" voices of Michael Howard and George Young (letter. December 10).

Yours faithfully. M. S. GILBERT, 16 Brockley Road Bournemouth BHIO 6JN. mike.gilbert@virgin.net

Hong Kong tourism

From the Executive Director of the Hong Kong Tourist Association

Sir. While Hong Kong has its fair share of warts, like any other city. Jonathan Mirsky's report of December 4, headed "Bad manners and high prices hit tourist trade", is well below the belt.

His disparaging remarks about the local Cantonese community show scant appreciation of what makes Hong Kong the dynamic city it is today. As regards the cost of shopping, Mr Mirsky had only to ask any carrier-bag laden tourist, let alone a local resident, to discover the huge selection of bargain outlets from street stalls to brand-name warehouses. The Economist Intelligence Unit, in its annual survey of major cities, consistently finds Hong Kong to be the cheapest destination to buy a basket of luxury tourist items. The level of service in our hotels is second to none.

As local columnist Danny Gittings remarked in the December 7 issue of the South China Sunday Morning Post, Mr Mirsky's article "gave a uniformly one-sided picture of life in Hong Kong which most long-term residents would have difficulty recognising".

Yours faithfully. AMY CHAN, Executive Director. Hong Kong Tourist Association. 11th Floor, Citicorp Centre, 18 Whitfield Road. North Point, Hong Kong. December 9.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Hard choices needed to fund NHS

From Dr Jan Kunkler

Sir. You report today the Government's commitment in its White Paper on the NHS to provide an appointment with a cancer specialist within two weeks of a general practitioner deciding that an urgent appointment is needed.

This is a very reasonable objective.

Increasingly, however, the first appointment is not with a single can-cer specialist but at a multidisciplinary clinic, where the patient has the benefit of the opinion of all the relevant cancer specialists and of counselling from cancer nurses. Adequate time is required to discuss with each patient the treatment needed and its possible side-effects. Additional time is often needed to recruit patients to national and international trials to improve the results of current treat-

A national network of cancer units based in district general hospitals linked to specialist cancer centres is being established to ensure uniformly high cancer care across the UK. To achieve this many more consultant cancer specialist posts are required. The number of new patients seen per oncologist in the UK is 560 a year, more than double that of Spain.

The Royal College of Radiologists has estimated that 290 clinical oncologists and 150 medical oncologists are needed to implement the 1995 Calman/Hine report on cancer services; and the recent joint report of the Can-cer Research Campaign, King's Fund and Macmillan Cancer Relief calculates that by 2001 an additional 116 consultant posts in clinical oncology will be required to provide the additional 27.840 sessions needed. In addition 750 cancer nurses are required to staff the 150 cancer units and 420 for the 40 cancer centres. The resource implications for staffing and training

are enormous. The minister is rightly committed to improve cancer services. However, we have some way to go even to catch up with our European partners. Within a cash-limited NHS hard choices will have to be made between the development of cancer services and other competing claims for health resources. These choices need to be explicit and publicly debated.

Yours faithfully. IAN KUNKLER (Consultant in Clinical Oncology), Western General Hospitals

Crewe Road, Edinburgh EH4 2XU. December 10.

Sir, Whilst the commissioning groups of GPs proposed in the NHS White Paper might seem to resemble staff model health maintenance organisations (HMOs) in the US in the sense that they both ration within a global budget, that is about as far as the parallel can be taken ("This takes us further down the American way".

Even the most frugal of HMOs provide an entirely different standard of service from that routinely delivered in the cost-contained NHS. The extra resources provide HMO enrolees with regular wellness care, custom-

Peter Riddell, December 10).

unhurried consultations, access to specialists, fast attention to ill-health. lower premature mortality from lifethreatening diseases and a feeling that something is being done about a health problem rather than a feeling

that care is being denied or delayed

because it cannot be afforded.

ised screening and counselling,

But the whole health culture is different in the US. The average insured American is better informed about health issues, and much less deferential to providers than his British counterpart. And American practitioners never forget that their patients have (and exercise) choice in healthcare.

Managed care is now cost-effectiveness orientated and has introduced cost-conserving procedures, within the bounds permitted by the watchful and influential consumer groups. Beyond that, expenditures are demand-led; evidence of a willingness to pay that is not directly identifiable in the British system. Regulating standards, target-setting and "name and shame" tactics within the NHS can only ever be partially successful at improving quality, and are inade-quate substitutes for the pressures that could be applied by an empower-ed patient population.

Yours sincerely, HEATHER GAGE, University of Surrey, Department of Economics, Guildford GU2 5XH. December 11.

From Mr I. K. Whitehead

Sir, Two observations spring to mind on the Government's White Paper. The first is that one internal market is to be replaced by another, seeking to build on the first: it is not a dismantling of the old reforms.

The second is the unwieldiness of the new GP commissioning groups: decisions will be taken further away from the patients.

Hopefully there will be some finetuning in Parliament before the White Paper enters the statute book.

Yours sincerely. IAN WHITEHEAD (Adviser, Downing Street Policy Unit. 1988-90), 2538 Willow Way, Sacramento, CA 95008. everton@cwnet.com December 10.

From Dr Clive Walker

Sir. When I started in general practice, some 20 years ago, the district medical committee would meet local GP. The district covered about 100,000 patients and the body to which the committee reported was called the North West Surrey District Health Authority.

Forgive me for a sense of dėja vu when I read about "new" commissioning bodies for groups of 100,000

Your sincerely CLIVE WALKER, Weybridge Health Centre. Minorca Road. Weybridge KT13 8DU. cladwalk@intonet.co.uk December 10.

Holocaust claims

From Mr W. D. Rothenberg

Sir, A small number of very elderly impoverished victims of the Holocaust have recently been able to claim very modest pensions from the German Government under what is known as the Claims Conference Article 2 Fund, the Hardship Fund. Impoverished Holocaust victims - and not others — are entitled to claim monthly payments and some have started to receive DM500 (say £170) a month.

Sadly, the poorest of these victims are now seeing the benefits from these payments flow straight to the British Government, as their social security benefits, ie, income support and council tax reductions, are clawed back. In at least one case, income support has heen reclaimed for the previous six months on the ground that the hardship fund payments were backdated six months.

It is sad that when high officials from governments around the world have been meeting in London to discuss some of the wrongs done to Holocaust victims (letters, December 8), the poorest of them are seeing payments to which they should be entitled taken from them by the British Government.

Yours faithfully, DAVID ROTHENBERG (Vice-Chairman), Association of Jewish Refugees, l Hamostead Gate. la Frognal. NW3 6AL.

Christmas aisles

From the General Secretary of the National Secular Society

Sir, The investors and staff of Asda plc (report, December 8, letter, December (0) did not join the organisation to proselytise on behalf of a religion. They and customers should object to a ple mounting this inappropriate (and to some offensive) rite in a multicultural society in which the majority are not practising Christians.

Yours sincerely. K. PORTEOUS WOOD. 47 Theobalds Road, WCIX SSP.

General Secretary. National Secular Society. Bradlaugh House. December II.

Sir, Paul Hoggart's somewhat improbable comparison (Magazine, December 6) between James Bond (new-style) and Tony Blair is given added interest by the fact that Bond and Blair attended the same

It is reasonably well known that Tony Blair went to Fettes, but in You Only Live Twice Ian Fleming records that Bond started at Eton but, after

Britannia's future

From Mr Jonathan West

Sir, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff (letter. December II) may well wish to see Britannia scrapped rather than saved. No doubt, like Princess Anne. he fondly remembers many fine times spent on board, all, one assumes, at

taxpayers' expense. Like many others I would like the chance to look round the ship; perhaps its upkeep may not quite meet the earlier high standards but, unlike Lord Callaghan, I would not be in a position to compare.

Yours faithfully, JONATHAN WEST. 60 St Aldates, Oxford OXI IST. December 13.

boys' maids", his aunt

"some alleged trouble with one of the

Male bonding

From Mr Robert Philp

managed to obtain his transfer to Fettes, his father's old school. Here the atmosphere was somewhat Calvinistic, and both acade mic and athletic standards were rigorous. The early application of rigour can clearly work wonders in one direction

> Yours faithfully. ROBERT PHILP, 61 Inverleith Place. Edinburgh EH3 5QD.

or another.

Questions of safe haven for babies

From Ms Philippa Tudor

Sir. Virginia Hume suggests (feature, December 10) that "the upshot of the baby Karli affair will be that many more women going into hospital to have habies will be terrified that somebody might come into their room in the middle of the night and take their newborn away from them". Having experienced this myself at one of the great London teaching hospitals, my own concern has been that women are not made aware of this

possibility. Fortunately our daughter, who had been taken by a woman whose own baby was in the special-care baby unit, had been abducted no further than the midwives' staff room, and the only apparent ill-treatment she had suffered was being fed formula milk. But the horror of waking in hospital to see the empty cot by my bedside has made me acutely aware that, despite my having been under the care of a brilliant consultant and equally bril-liant anaesthetist, a newborn baby is only as safe as its surroundings. For my newborn daughter, hospital was not a safe haven.

Yours faithfully, PHILIPPA TUDOR, 121 Narbonne Avenue. SW4 9LQ. December 10.

From Dr B. P. Guratsky

Sir, I reckon that no more than one baby per year is abducted from an NHS maternity unit: typically, it will be missing for no more than a few hours and will come to no lasting

Extrapolating from local costs I also reckon that security equipment in maternity units over the entire NHS consumes well over £1 million per year, not allowing for staff costs or for the delays suffered by staff attempting to go about their business.

Priorities for spending money should be based on the actual degree of risk, not the degree of media excite-

Yours sincerely. B. P. GURATŠKY, 42 Graham Road. West Kirby, Wirral L48 5DW. December 6.

Home births

From Dr Richard Freeman

Sir. I heartily support the sentiments expressed in Sarah Johnson's article. "Safe, secure - and satisfying" (December 10). Our third ch at home 16 years ago. It was only allowed because the mother contracted mumps two weeks before delivery and was too infectious to be allowed near a hospital.

Home births are an excellent way of introducing the newborn to its siblings. But. of course, only if everything is normal. The risks involved with home deliveries become much higher if intervention is required; and the trauma this may induce amonest the rest of the family, not to mention the mother, has to be recognised.

Yours etc. RICHARD FREEMAN. 101 Castle Street. Saffron Walden CBIO IBQ.

From Mr P. R. Ridgway

Sir, I was interested in the article promoting the benefits of birth at home, including the greater sense of continuity and family ties.

I too was born at home, in the same house where my mother had been born. Unfortunately the adjoining property has since expanded, and when I now point out to my children my birthplace, it is located in the saloon bar of the Fox and Goose.

Yours sincerely, PHIL RIDGWAY. 27 Naverne Meadows Woodbridge IP12 IHU. December 10.

Blair's travels

From Dr D. G. Guild

Sir. With the Kyoto summit still in progress at the time, one would have thought that the Prime Minister could have found some more positive affirmation of his beliefs than the new logo which, as I understand, is to disfigure a Eurostar train (report, December 6). Mr Blair could show that his devo-

tion to a green future is more than 'spin". When he goes to Brussels he could travel by Eurostar rather than by air. Air travel has a high pollution content, higher even than road. And he

might find that, given the short distances involved, he might get from the centre of London to the centre of Brussels as quickly as by air.

Yours faithfully, D. G. GUILD. 53 Grange Road. Edinburgh EH9 ITX. December 8.

Bones of contention

From Mrs Julia Pike

Sir. At midnight the Nanny State will truly have arrived: we will all have to have our meat cut up for us.

Yours faithfully. JULIA PIKE, Brasses Farm. Ewhurst Green, Robertsbridge TN32 5RH.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 15: The Queen this evening attended the Home-Start UK Carol Service at the Guards Chapel. Service at the Guards Chapel.
Weilington Barracks, London SWI.
The Dulce of Edinburgh, Patron.
Outward Bound Trust, this aftermoon
gave a Lunch for the Outward Bound
Patron's Company at Frogmore
House, Windsor Home Park.

December 15: The Princess Royal.

December 15: The Princess Royal. Patron. Northern Lighthouse Board. this morning attended a meeting of the Management Committee at 84 George Street. Edinburgh.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon opened a new building at the Scotch Whisky Research Institute. Heriot-Watt University Research Park, Riocarton, Edinburgh, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost). Lord Provost).

ST JAMES'S PALACE December 15: The Prince of Wales this afternoon received Mr Alun Michael MP (Minister of State,

The Prince of Wales. President. Business in the Community, will host a seminar at St James's Palace

at 10.00 with business leaders who attended his Autumn 1997 Seeing

The Princess Royal, Patron, the

Rutler Trust will visit HM Prison

Woodhill, Million Keynes, at 10.30; will open Parmiter's School Sports Centre, High Elms Lane, Garston, near Watford, at 12.45; as President, The Princess Royal Truss for

Carers, will visit Hertfordshire Carers Centre, Church Street.

Ware, at 2.40; and as President, Save the Children Fund, will

attend the Festival of Trees gala

dinner. Natural History Museum

The Duke of Gloucester will attend a presentation of The Story of Christmas at St George's, Hanover Square, at 7.20 in aid of Drugs in School Helpline and the Wessex

Children's Hospice Trust, and will attend a reception at the Wallace

Collection, Manchester Square, at

The Duchess of Gloucester, Pa-

tron, Parkinson's Disease Society.

will attend a Christmas Carol concert, St Marylebone Parish

Princess Alexandra will attend Jos

to the World a Christmas celebration, Albert Hall, at 7.15.

Association Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns,

Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns, Chief of Air Stall, was the principal guest at the annual Officers' dimner of the Combined Cadet Force Association, held last night at the Imperial Hotel, London, General Sir Geoffrey Howlett presided, Major-General A.M. Keeling, Major-General P.C. Shapland and Air Vice-Marshal P.J. Harding were among those present.

Service dinner Combined Cadet Force

Church, at 6.30.

is Believing Programme.

Fettes College, Royal engagements Edinburgh

The Governors of the Fettes Trust are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Michael Spens as Headmaster of Fettes College, Edinburgh, with effect from September 1998, to succeed Mir Malcolm Thyne following his retirement. Mr Spens was a Housemaster at Radley College. Oxfordshire, between 1984 and 1993 including the post of Senior Housemaster for the last two years, since when he has been the Headmaster of Caldicott School, Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire.

His Royal Highness, President, the Bach Choir, this evening held a Carol Concert and Reception at St James's

Palace.
The Prince of Wales, President.

later attended the film première of Spice, in aid of The Prince's Trust at the Empire Cinema, Leicester

December 15: The Duke of Kent this afternoon visited Johnson Controls Automotive (United Kingdom) Lim-ited, Oakham Business Park, Mans-

ited, Oakham Business Park, Mans-field, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Not-tinghamshire (Sir Andrew Bu-chanan, Bt)

His Royal Highness later visited Eriesson Mobile Communications
Limited, Lawn Road, Carlton-in-Lindrick, Worksop, Nottingham-

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

December 15: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this evening attended a "Celebration of Christmas" in aid of

the Mental Health Foundation at

the Empire Cinema, Leio Square, London WCZ.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

Carol service The Manorial Society of Great

The Manorial Society of Great Britain held its carol service last night at Temple Church, London, Canon J. Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated, assisted by the clerk to the society, the Rev J. Goodden. The choir was led by Dr Stephen Layton and the Fanlare Trumpeters of the Royal Artillery were directed by Major G.A. Kingston. The Lessons were read by: Lord Sudeley, Sir Colin Cole, Sir Richard Hanbury-Tenison, Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent, Mr J.A. Finnis, Mr C.R. Humphery-Smith, and Mr P. Jennings. A dinner was held later at Inner Temple Hall. Mr Robert Smith, chairman of the society, presided.

Elections

Inper Temple Sibghatullah Kadri, QC, and Robert Webb, QC, have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner

Today's birthdays

Mr J.M. Blackburn, chief executive, Halifax Building Society, 56; Mr N.C. Blamey, artist, 83; Sir Michael Carlisle, former chairman, Trent Regional Health Authority, 68; Mr Arthur C. Clarke, science writer, 80; Her Hon Myrella Cohen, QC, 70; Professor ard Crick, author, 69; the Hon Peter Dickinson, author, 70: Mrs Jacqueline Duncan, Principal, Inchbald School of Design, 66; Mr Joel Gamer, former cricketer, 45; Sir Robert Gunn, former chairman. The Boots Company, 72:

Miss Heather Hallett, QC, 48; Sir Jasper Hollom, former Deputy Governor, Bank of England, 80; Mr John Kirwan, rugby player, 33; Miss Jacqui Lait, MP, 50; Lord Mottistone, 77; Mr Trevor Pinnock, harpsichordist and conductor 51. conductor, 51.

Lieutenant-General Sir David Scott-Barrett, 75; Mr N. Shibata, Gestetner Holdings, 59; Miss Liv Ullmann. actress, 59; Mr W.H.P. Whatley, trade unionist, 75; Gen-eral Sir Roger Wheeler, 56.



Hot-blooded Cuban dancers from the Club Tropicana in Havana faced a chilly December day in London yesterday as they prepared for their show at the Albert Hall next year. This will be the first time the 30 dancers, the 20-piece band and their show have been seen outside Cuba since the club was founded in 1939

Luncheons

American Chamber of Commerce (UK) The American Ambassador was the guest of honour at a Christmas luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Sir Brian Goswell, president, was

To Mr Christopher Fry
The Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex
and Lady Ward attended a function
held on Sunday at the Minerva
Theatre Restaurant, Chichester, to
mark the 90th birthday (December
18) of Mr Christopher Fry. Mr Tony
Britton and Mr Fry were the speakers. The lancheon was held under the
auspices of the Chichester Festival

Theatre, the Pallant House Gallery and the Keats Club.

Rotzry Club of London
Mr David Becton, Chief Executive of
Historic Royal Palaces, was the
speaker at a luncheon of the Rotzry
Club of London held yesterday at the
Portman Hotel. Mr Clifford Charles,
president, was in the chair.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Ludwig van Beethoven, composer, Boan, 1770; Jane Austen, novelist, Steventon Rectory, Hamp-shire, 1775; Sir Noël Coward, playwright and composer, London, 1899. DEATHS: Wilhelm Grimm, collector

of tolk tales, Berlin, 1859; William Somerser Maugham, novelist and playwright, Nice, 1954.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.N. Day and Miss S.C. Giddins

and Miss S.C. Giddins
The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.K. Day, of Comberbach. Cheshire, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs L.T. Giddins, of Warborough. Oxfordshire.

Mr C.H.G. Dunster and Miss A.J. Westlake

The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mir and Mirs Francis Dunster. of Maidenhead, and Annabel, younger daughter of the late Dr David Westlake and of Dr Daphne Westlake, of Gerrards Cross.

Mr C.P. Hughes and Miss C.R. Larard and Miss L.R. Larard
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Paul Hughes, of Hedley, Stocksfield, Northumberland, and Rebecca, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Larard, of Elloughton, East Yorkshire.

Dr A.C. Martin and Dr R. Alakes The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs David Martin, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Renuka. elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Alakeson, of Wimbledon, London. Mr R.J.V. Hughes and Miss A.E. Matza

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Dr and Mrs G.R.V. Hughes, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Amy Elise, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Matza, of Hastings on the

Hudson, New York. Mr O.M.W. Lyell

and Miss J.M. Fuller
The engagement is announced between Oliver, elder son of Sir Nicholas and Lady Lyell, of Markyate, Hertfordshire, and Justine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Fuller, of Suttonby-Dover, Kent Mr N.J. Roberts

and Miss R.A. Coleman The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Roberts, of Billericay, Essex, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Coleman, of Dundalk, Co Louth, Republic of

Mr J.D. Welchman and Miss N.C. McKeag The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Dillon Welchman, of London, and Nicula, younger daughter of Mr Hugh McKeag, of Jakarta, and Mrs Helen McKeag, of London.

Dinners

Cardiff Business Club
The Chairman of Cardiff Business Club, Mr Brian K. Thomas, the Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd Edwards, the Depuny Lord Mayor. Councillor Gill Bird, and the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr J.W. Phillips, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was Mr Dong-lin Choi, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea. Mr David Rowe-Beddoe, Chairman. Welsh Development Agency, presided.

Wheelwrights' Company
The new Master of the Wheelwrights, Mr William Bolt, presided at the Installation Dinner of the Wheelwrights' Company held on Thursday, December 4, at Carpenters' Hall. Sir Leslie Fielding, KCMG. Mr Deputy G.A.G. Pulman, JP, Deputy Governor of the Honourable Irish Society were the principal guests. Among others

present were:
The Master of the Masons' Company, Mr P.A. Copland, the Master of the Coachmakers & Coach-Harness Makers' Company, Mr R.G. Croali and the Master of the Woolmen's Company, Mr R. Johnson, also attended.

The Sovereign's Parade: Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

General Sir Roger Wheeler represented the Queen at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on December 12. The following have been granted commissions in the Regiments and commissions in the regiments and Corps shown, having successfully completed Commissioning Course No. 971: the Sword of Honour was won by Junior Under Officer I M. Gardiner and The Queen's Medal was won by Officer Cadet G M. Baldwin.

M J D Ackrill, AAC, Arden Sch.

M J D Ackrill, AAC, Arden Sch. Solihull: J S Ambrose, Scots DG. Waterford Sch. Swaziland: C P M Anderson, RA, Rugby Sch: A J Atherton, RLC, St Aldan's C of E HS, Harrogate: R J Atkinson, RE, Glyn Sch. Ewell: J S Austin, RRF, Robert Pattinson GMCS, Lincoln: L P Aya. Kings. Sir Roger Manwood's Sch. G. M Boldwin, RE Fronze Colleger G. Kings, Sir Roger Manwood's Sch.
G M Baldwin, RE, Frome College; G
R Barber, RA, Battey GS; J B Barron.
R Irish [HSFT], Millifield Sch; M A
Bavin, Int Corps, Carres GS. Sleaford; M C Baxter, Cheshire, Cotswold
Sch, Bourton; K Bennett, RE,
Connah's Quay HS; H G C
Bettinson, WG, Malvern College; D
W N Bevart, WG, Eton College; T J
Blower, AGC (ETS), The Clere Sch;
M E Booker, RE, Northgane HS. M E Booker, RE, Northgare HS, Dereham: S P A Bourne, AAC. Bishop Wordsworth's Sch: S N Bradley, RE, Queen's College, Taunton; J T M Breckenridge, RRW, Bishop Llandaff Sch, Cardiff: A Brenner, REME, Morrison's Academy; O C C Brown, R Anglian, Brentwood Sch; R M Brown, RE, St Andrew's Sch. Worthing: R S Brown, KOSB, Earlston HS; R J Browne. KOSB, Earlston HS; R J Browne, RLC, Rontgen Sch. Berlin: E J Bruce, R Signals, Bell Baxter HS, Cupar; S A Buchanan, RLC, Morrison's Academy; J N E Buczacki, KRH, Warwick Sch; A J S Burm, RLC, Laurettee Jackson Sch; G R Burrows, LL Welbeck College: J Butterfill, RRF, Colfes Sch; S E Cambridge, R

Signals, Park House Sch, Newbury; Signals, Park House Scn, Newbury;
A R G Cartwright, Gren Gds,
Harrow Sch: S J Carvel, RE, Welbeck,
College; C P Casson-Crook, LI, Royal
Alexandra Sch, Reigate; T H C D
Charmer, RHF, Ampleforth College;
J E A Chestmut, KOSB, Canford Sch;
LI Chimote PARA Houneferan Sch J E A Chestruot, KOŠB, Canford Sch; J J Chitnock, PARA, Hoursdown Sch, Totton; D W A Clugston, RE, Oundle Sch: C M Coles, RWF, Sandbach Sch; C J Cornolly, R Irish (HSFT), Gransha HS, Bangor, NI; PJ Cooper, AAC, Liskeard Sch; A E A Corlory, R Signals, Bedford Sch; M D Cornwell, RRF, Whitgift Sch; E K Couper, RLC, Headington Girls' Sch, Oxford; M J Crinnion, R Signals, Canford Sch; D J M Curley, R Irish (HSFT). St Patrick's CS, Shannon. Patrick's CS, Shannon.

Patrick's CS, Shannon.

N. J. Dale, PARA, Forest CS, Wokingham; C. I. Darwent, KOBR, Stonyhurst College; A. R. Davie, R.L.C., Langley Park Sch., Beckenham; G. M. Davies, RRW, Belmont Abbey Sch., Hereford; M. A. A. Dornan, RA, Ellesmere College; C. P. Dorwson, QRL, Cheltenham College; P. R. Driver, Kings, Stamford College; B. A. J. Dunning, R.L.C., Welbeck College.

L'Edwards, R.L.C. Welbeck College. J Edwards, R.C., Welbeck College, N Eggen, R.C., Bentham Sch., Lan-caster, V D Ellis, R.C., Marr College, Sch; G J-M Evans, RE, Monmouth Sch; D R P Eydes, KOSB, Glenalmond Sch. DR Farrimond, R Signals, Clifton College; N E Farthing, REME, Woldgate CS. Pocklington; S J Fer-guson, RLC, Cowes HS; J B J Fletman, RGBWR, Gordano Sch,

Portishead: A V Forsyth, QRH, Greshams Sch; C F Foster, RA, Cheltenham College, R J Franklin, RRF, RGS, Worcester, C D H Frisby, RRF. Dulwich College. E J Gairdner, QRH, Worth Sch; R E Ganpatsingh, RGR, Brighton Coll-ege; I M Gardiner, R Irish (HSFT), Grey HS, RSA; M R Genko, RLC, Welbeck College; P M George, AGC (ETS), Pates GS, Cheltenham; S J Gladwin, R Signals, Ruthin Sch; C P Goodwin Hudson, RGJ, Stowe Sch; R Graham, RA, Eastwood CS: E H Greasley, Int Corps, St Mary's Sch. Cambridge: D J Guest, Cheshire, King's Sch. Chester; S J W Gunson, R

King's Sch. Chester; SJW Gunson, R Signals, Cranbrook Sch.
PJ Hale, R Signals, Matthew Arnold Sch. Oxford: D R Hall, RLC, Welbeck College; R J Hall, DWR, Elizabethan HS, Retimci; E Hamilton-Green, AGC (SPS). Eggars Sch. Afton; M Hanlon, R Signals, Rye Hills Sch; M J Harris, RRW, Monmouth Sch; T J Harris, RRW, Monmouth Sch; T J Harris, LI, Trintity Sch; A J Haynes, RLC, Comberton Village College; N J Hender, Gren Gds, Marthorough College; G R G Hill, AAC, Harrow Sch; R J Hobbs, R Irish, Castlebrae HS, Edinburgh; A M N P Howard, LG, Harrow Sch; A L Huims, AGC (ETS), Vienna International Sch; J A Humphreys, R Irish, Royal Belfast Academical Inst.
C S Ireland, REME, Honicknowle

Academical Inst.
C. S. Ireland, REME, Honicknowle
SS, Plymouth; N. E. James, R. Signals,
Cheadle Hulime Sch.: C. M. James, R.A.
Ponteland County HS; A. R. G. Jarvis,
R.E., Forest Sch.; A. S. Johnson, R.
Signals, Fyling Hall Sch., Whitby: S. A.
Johnson, P.W.R., Tambridge House,
Sch. Horsham: D. R. Jones, Staffords, Sch. Horsham; D. R. Jones, Statiords, Streetley Sch., Sutton Coldifield: J. S. Jones, R. Signals, Darfield Foulstone Sch; N. W. Jones, R.W.F., Glanafan CS., Port Talbot: T. J. Jones, R.L.C., Welbeck, College. O. J. Kingsbury, PARA, Turton H.S., Bolton: B.J. Knox, Green Howards, Upplingham Sch.

M S Lawson, AGC (SPS), Rainford HS, St Helens; A J Layden, RA, Ampleforth College, S C Le Grande, RLC, Lotterworth GS; C J Leese, R Irish, Solibull Sch; S R Lumley, RE, The British Sch. Netherlands: C A MacDermot-Roe. Scots DG.

Ampleforth College.

H A K Manwaring, KRH, Shrewsbury Sch; D J Marthews, PARA, Welbeck College; J F C Maxwell

Smart, SG, Ampleforth College, B E
O Mayne, RTR, St John's Sch; J R
Mayo, Cheshire, Royal Wolvenhampton Sch; L C McCutcheon, RRF,
King Edward's Sch, Birmingham; A J
A McDougall, QDG, Anglican
Church GS, Brisbane, R N McLeish,
RS, Glenalmond College, T S
Meldrum, RA, Dr Challoner's Sch,
Amersham; P J Messenger, R Anglian, Duke of York's RMS; C G
Morgan, RA, Ash Manor Sch, Aldershot; D H Morgan, RLC, Yagol
Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf; M J Mortón, R Signals, Collingwood Sch,
Camberley; P A Muncey, R Anglian,
Ferrer's Sch; G A Murphy, AGC
(SPS), St Mary's College, Liverpool; J
C Murray, AAC, Gordonstom Sch; L
K Murray, RA, Edenham HS,
S E Nasse, REME, Edenham HS, S E Nasse, REME, Edenham HS, Croydon, S M Neville, RE, Welbeck College, A J Neylan, RA, Prior Park College, R H Noort, PWRR, Weston Park Boys Sch., Southampton. V P O'Brien, RE, Aylesbury Grammar Sch; J S Offer, IG, Wellington College: D J Orpin, RRF, Trinity Sch; S T G Otter, R Anglian, Bedford

Modern Sch. P M Packer, AGC (PRO), Eltham College, N J Parker, RA, Aldenham Sch; J Penney, LI, Stratford upon Avon HS; M D A Perry, RE, Collingwood Sch; I J S Peters, AAC, Blundells Sch; J C Pettit, D and D. RGS, High Wycombe; C S C Pick-ering, AAC, Monmouth Sch; E T Picton, KOBR, Rossall Sch; J D H Porter, RTR, The Hulme Grammar Sch; R S Porter, Cheshire, Sandbach Sch; C J Preston, R Signals, Bury GS; R W Profit, RE, Oakham Sch.

P N Randell, R Signals, Ferndown Upper Sch; B J Rayment, R Anglian, Thomas Mills HS, Framlingham; J L Recce, RLC, Coombe Dean Sch, Plymouth; J G Rees-Davies, LG, Sherborne Sch; A M Reid, RE, Bishop Ullathorpe CS, Coventry; G J Robinson, RA, Malvern College; W B

M Robinson, R Irish (HSFT), Omagh Academy: W H Robinson, RE. Oundle Sch: O N Roper, I.I. Uppingham Sch: H W Rosen, Coldm Gds, Shrewsbury Sch: C R Ross, RGR. Bournemouth Sch: A E Russell, WFR, Caterham Sch. P J Sanders, RE, Welbeck College; H J Scott, R Signals, Clacton HS; K W Scott. AGC (PRO), Friends Sch, Lisburn; W R S O L Scrass-Dickins,

Lisburn: W R S O L Scrase-Dickins, RGJ, Downside Sch; S H R Scrope, Coldin Gds, Ampiefarth College, P J Searle, Green Howards, Merchant Taylors Sch; N Serle, KOBR, Lady Berkeley's Sch; A D Shakespeare, R Signals, St George's Sch, Sleaford; E M Shanklyn, RA. Wellington Sch; D G Shannon, R Irish, Foyle & London-derry College; C K Sherhock, AGC (ETS), Cardinal Newman Sch; A Shorters, REME, St Peter's Sch, Exeter, A J Smith, LD, Berkhamstead Sch; N A Smith, RLC, Turton HS, Bolton; A J Snell, RENTE, St Peter's Sch, Bournemouth; J-A Snow, SG, Sch. Bournemouth; J.A. Stowy, SG. Eton College; W Stables, RLC, Welheck College; C D Statham, Int Corps, Lady Manners Sch. Bakewell; H C Steel, RGJ. Eton College; B L Stevens, RA, Strathallan Sch; A P D Statham (Ed. M.)

Stuart, REME, Dunbar GS. J M Tallack, AGC (ETS), Shebbear College; J L Tancrel, KOBR, Dallam Sch, Milnthorpe; P T Tedman, AAC, Cresser, Sch, High Wycombe; N Thomas, QDG, Flynone House Sch, Swanser, J A Thornett, PARA, Horsforth Sch, Leeds: A P Thornen, Staffords, Sevenoaks Sch; A C Tubbs, 9/12 L. Wycliffe College; A P Tuitt, PWRR, Abbossield Sch, Uxbridge. P L Urry, RA. Bedistone College; S I Valencia, RRW, Clifton College; S M Vardy, AGC (SPS), Heathside Sch, Weybridge; J H Vyvyan, LI, Downside Sch.

DG Walker, RE. King Alfred's Sch. Wantage: J Wallace, REME, St Modan's HS. Stirling: WJ L Waugh. KTR, The Leys Sch; V A S Went-

worth, RLC, Queen Elisabeth GS, Ashbourne; C M West, RAMC, Hurstpierpoint Sch; M West, RLC. Thurston Upper Sch; N West, RLC. St Hilda's Sch, Whithy; J P Wheale, RA, Abbot Beyne Sch; M E White, QDG, Oundle Sch; M M Wight-Boycott, RS. Loreno Sch; M R Wilkinson, RE, Clifton College; R D Wilkinson, Int Corps, Sevenoaks Sch; R Williams, RE, Rougemont Sch, Newport: G M A Wills, R Signals, Welbeck College; J A J Wilson, RRF, St Mary's College, Crosby; E M Wingfield, RGJ, Eton College: A Wissman, RA, Keil Sch, Durnbarton; M H W Workman, RE, Wycliffe College; D P Worthington, PARA, Queen Elisabeth Cambria Sch; R A Wright, RA, Harrow Sch.

Oversess codets

The following overseas caders also passed out with a view to being commissioned in the Armed Forces of their own countries; the winner of the Overseas Cane was Officer Cadet Mkaka Malawi:

Belize, Jesus Abell Reymundo; Botswana. Daniel Oitsile: Fiji, Nacanieli Robanakadavu Natale; Ghana, Nobel Carl Doe Dei-Arorse; Guyana, Marvin I. J. Chichester, Hungary, Geza Szocs; Jaanaica, O'Nelli Blair, Rudolph St Michael Reynolds, Damian Small; Jordan, Basam Mahmoud Al Srayhin; Kuwait. Sheikh Daoud Daoud Al Sa-bah, Sheikh Hamoud Rashid Al Sabah, Sheikh Khalifa Daij Al Sa-bah; Maiswi, Sikaloka Sanyo Kaliati, Rodrick Mkaka; Malita, Stefan Joseph Camilleri; Namibia, Peter Mutako Damaseb; Oman, Sulaiman Ahmed Al Wardi; Pakl-stan, Muhammad Saiman Tajwar; Sri Lanka, Am Ravindra Pulina Athanetherhu; UAR Ali Ohaid Ali Ali wait. Sheikh Daoud Daoud Al Sa-Athapaththu: UAE, Ali Obaid Ali Al Zabad. Sheikh Khalid Mohammed Al Qassimi, Yousef Anber Al Sinani: Al Qassimi, Yousef Anber Al Zimbaliwe, Mpolu Khulekan

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

On him the spirit of the Lord will rest; a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and fear BIRTHS spirit of knowledge and feat of the Lord, Isaiah 12 : 2 BIRTHS

BOWMAN - On December 8th, to Virginia (née Burrows) and Henry, a daughter, Miranda Jennifer Alloe, a sister for Polly. DEEPROSE - On 12th December 1997, to Jayne (note Martin) and Matthew, a daughter, Oliviz Jayne, a sister for Fraser James. OFFICE OF PERDER - On Friday December 12th in Santiago, Chile, to Georgie and Joss, a son, Maximilian Robin.

NOWNS - On December 7th at The Portland Hospital, to The Portland Hospital, to Catherine and John, a daughte, Emily.

EDGAR - On December 12th at The Portland Hospital, to Alexie (née Roe) and Nicholas, a beautiful son.

PLETCHELJONES - On 12th December 1997 in Amsterdam, to Nigel and Lucinda (noe Forter), a son, How Thomas, a brother for

POHTES MAYER JONES - Prul and Wendy are delighted to amounce the birth of their daughter, Alice, born on Saturday 13th December at 4.47 am.

JEHAN - On 9th December 1997, to Sarah (née Harrison) and Denis of

KRYUKOV - On December 8th at The Postland Bospital, to Ainagul and Dimitri, a daughter, Jeanne.

MACKINTOSH - On December 8th, to Bosie (nee Webb) and Anges, a son, Lachlan Jonas Whistler. MARCLDA - On December 6th at The Portland Respital, to Vivi and Alberto, a son, Eduardou, a brother for

O'HYRRE - On December 8th : The Portland Hospital, to Emma (née Freeman) and Patrick, a daughter, Imogen RUTHVEN - On 12th December, to Georgie (nee Stevens) and Tim, a daughter. SCONZA - On December 8th at The Fortland Hospital, to Michael and Sheryi, a son, Alex Finley, a brother for Justin.

VESTEY - On Monday December 15th 1997 in Sydney, to Victoria (née Waddell) and Robin, a son, Henry (Harry) Robin Edmund, a brother for Georgina and Rose.

DEATHS

ABBOTT - Trevor Michael. On 9th December, Beloved husband, som and brother Devoted father to Bes. Cherry, Candy, Tristan and Many, Candy, Tristan and Devoted father to Ben, Cherry, Candy, Tristan and Megan, Funeral will be private Details of Memorial Service to be announced in New Year. No flowers please. Donations to Trevor's favourite charity, The Wooden Spoon Society, Spoon Office, 35 Maugham. Court, Whitstable, Kent, CTS ARE.

ANDERSON - Died at home on 12th December 1997 aged 61 years Kathryn Mary Anderzon Beloved mother. Funeral Service on Friday 19th December 1997 at St Anne's Church, Larkshall Boad, Chingford E4 at 12.30pm, Donations if wished to Multiple Scierosis Society c/o D.W. Johns Funeral Directore, 108 Station Road, Chingford B4 6AE.

ANDREWS - Dr. Ronald Alford on December 6th, pencerally at home in Sydney aged 8th. Dearly lowed husband, father and grandfather; former Commodore of the Royal Crusting Club. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held at the end of Junuary, Details sat (0117) 973 6306.

AMDREWS - Norman Edward OBE on December 13th 1997. Beloved husband of the late Tula Midence, died peacefully at his home in Guatemala City, Guatemala,

DEATHS BANER - Nicholm (Nick) on December 11th suddenly in hospital aged 41. Much loved and lewing hasband of Anna, father of Louise and Lauta, son of Rarbara and Sydney and brother of Anna and the late jeanna. Functal on Friday December 19th at 1 pm at All Sahara' Church, Feppard, Ozon. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to The Entitle Heart Foundation, 14 Fitcherdings Street, Wi.

BATTAM - Henry Alfred John December 14th 1997. Died peacefully. Most beloved husband, father and

gammatuser.

SREEZE - Harry, M.B.E., D.F.C., C.Eng., M.I. Gans E. Aged 83 years. Formerly of Wales Gas. Peacekeilly at his home in Swammen. Funeral Saturday 20th December, 1997. Enquiries 01792 896110.

CHAFFE - Pamein on December 12th 1977 at Garys Hospital, London. A very special lady who will be fondly remembered. Donations for the Scrish Hestr Foundation and enquiries to Walter Pauson (01752) 767675.

CHAMBERS - On December 11th at the Oxford 11th at the Oxford Jeaumont Nursing Care Centre, Jean Moir Chambers aged. 88, daughter of Professor William Gough of Leeds University, beloved wife and widow of David Gostling Chambers lists of the Indian Civil Service, much loved mother of William and Richard, devoted grandmother of Josephine, Robert and Larry, Cremation on Monday December 22nd at 130 pm at the Oxford Crematonium and afterwards at The Gore, Boars Hill, Flowers to Reoyand Pain Punema Directors, 288 Ahingdon Road, Oxford.

COOPER - Robert Douglas. Suddenly at home in London on December 10th 1997 Bob (late of Bass Breweries and a member of the Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club), Beloved son of Marquetite and the late Peter Cooper and loving brother of Hujen. Sadly missed by all (aways and the late Peter Cooper and loving brother of Hujen. Sadly missed by all (aways and brother of Helen. Sadly missed by all family and friends. A funeral service will take place at Warriston Crematorium Cloister Chapel Edinburgh on Friday 19th December 1997 at 1.45pm to which all family and friends are welcome. Family flowers only please.

COXON - Dr. Robert David Alexander (Sundy) died at home on December 9th 1997 aged 47. Will be sadiy missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at Dynchurch Parish Church Thomaday Dacember 18th friends. Funeral Service at Dynchurch Parish Church on Thursday December 18th 1997 at 2 pm. Family Howers canly or donations if desired to ENLLI or MNDA c/o Chittendens Funeral Services, Windmill Street, Hythe, Kent CT21 6BE.

DAVES - Effects Sensett ME peacefully on 11th December 1997. Elfrects former Principal of The Queen Elizabeth School, Horin, Migeria and Headmistress of Walthamstow Hall School, Sevenosia: Fundral Service at the United Esforthed Church, Shrewsbury on December 18th at 3 pm. A Memorial Service will beheld at a later date. Enquiries tel: 01743 344646.

FOSCETT - On December 11th pescefully at 3t Anthomy's Hospital, Dan, beloved hosband of Nobuko and Myrile, father of Mile and Sandy and much loved genetisther. Funsal Service at New Malden Methodist Church at 10.45 am on Monday 22nd December. Family Howers only please. Donations in memory of Don to "Princess Alice Hospita" if desired to Fredk W. Zalna, 182 High Street, New Malden, Sunsy KT3 4ES.

ENAN-WALLACE - Lt-Col Richard John. Died suddenly at The Royal London Yacht Club, Cowes, Isle of Wight on Saturday 13th December. on saturary Lain December.
Family flowers only.
Donations to the L.O.W.
Society for the Bind, care of
Twymans, Avenue Road,
Freshwater. Much missed
Ausband, father and friend.

COOK - On December 14th
1997 peacefully at 3t
Michael's Hospice,
Basingstoks. Ernest Affred
Gilbert, aged 39, devoted
for husband of long and beloved
brother to
husband of the late Kathleen
Alice, much loved father of
Mary and Sue and loving
grandfather and greatgrandfather and greatgrandfather. Funeral Service
at Wootton St Lewrence
at L

HARBURY - Reader Dennison D.S.O. died aged 82 years bravely on 12th December at Roweroft Hospics, Touquay, He is saily mined by family and friends. The Funeral Service will be held at St Michael's Haington Farish Church, Deven on Thursday 18th December at 3 pm. Flowers or donations in remembrance for Rowcroft Hospice can be accepted into the c/o Coombes & Sons, Funeral Directors of Bovey Tracey, Devon.

MNI. Geoffrey M.R.E. died December 11th 1997 aged 81. Private funeral No floral tributes. Domations to The British Antique Dealers Senevolent Fund c/o The British Antique Dealers Association, 20 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1BD.

MOLT - Pencefully at home at Murraythwaits, Lockethie, on 14th December 1997, Frank Holt, in his 91st year, heloved husband of Anne-Funeral Service on Priday 19th December at Murraythwaits at 2 pm and thereafter private cressation. No letters please.

HUMPHRIES - Alan Humphries ORL. Pirst Resdmaster of the British School of Brussels. Died on 8th December 1997 in Spain where he has been crammed. Friends and colleagues will be welcome at a reunion in remembrance of Alan at Farthinghoe Village Bail, noter Brackley, Rorthanto on 2nd January 1998. Details from (01295) 710335.

BRWIN - Brigodler Anges D.H. Lwth CSE DSQ, MC JP, On December 15th 1997 peacafully in hospital. Devoted and much loved husband, father and guandfather. Punesal private. Thanksgiving Service in the New Year.

KEMMEDY - Cocil aged 92. Still-life Painter, on 12th December at his home in St Albana. Devoted and adored husband of Winifred Most lovingly and respectfully missed by Robert and fill, his six geandchildren and his six great-grandchildren. Funeral Service to take place at St Michael's Church, St Albans at 10 am on Pridsy 19th December to which all friends are welcome. Florers and enquiries to Phillips Funerals, 68 Alma Road, St Albans. Tel: 01727 851006.

KMIGHT - Daphne of Cotheridge, near Wornester, died peacefully at Konks wood Hospital, Womester, on Saturday 13th December aged 32 years. Dearly beloved wife of Colomel Allem Knight, much loved mother of Susan and Felicity-Anne, devoted grandmother of Ian and Christopher, Funeral at St. Leonard's 200 pm on Leonard's Church, Cotheridge, at 2:30 pm on Thursday 18th December. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to

Worcester Stanck SSAFA -forces Help, TA Centre, Silver Street, Worcester.

LEIGH WOWARD - Eric on 12th December peacefully at home, formerly a senior partner of Payne Hicks Beach. Puteral Service at Golders Green Crember at 3.15 pm. There will be a Memorial Service in early spring 1998. Any suguisies to Grainne Staden at Charles Russell Solicitors, teli (0171) 203-5196.

MOAD - Frank on 10th December aded 90 MOAD - Frank on 10th December aged 90 pascefully at Typhane Nursing Home, Braunton, North Devon, Loving and beloved husband of Louise and a devoted and Ruch loved father and grandfather Funeral on 18th December at 1:30 pm at St Anne's Chapel, Saunton, Femily Gowens or donations if desired to Typhane Besidents Fond o'b Emidick & Dymond, Everer Road, Braunton, Devon, teli (01271) 812042.

OSLEM - Joseph David died suddenly in hospital on December 12th, beloved husband of Give, inther of Linchary and Suzh, intherin-law of Circe and Anizan, grandfather of Sophie, jessica and Hugh Sevice at St Andrew's Church, Kingswood, on Thursday December 18th at 10 am. Family flowers only please. Donations in memory to British Heart Foundation.

PHILIPS - Margaret Blanche PHRIPS - Mangaret Einnehe, wife of Stephen and mother of Eichaed and William died peacefully on December 11th at home after a short illness. Service of Thankegiving at St. Margaret's Church at 2.30pm on Sunday 11th January. No flowers please, donations to Save the Children Fund.

ROWLEY - Cells, The Hon.
Lady. Peacofully at hame on
13th December 1997.
Puneral at & Mary's, Stoke
by Hayland on Friday 19th
December at 11.30 am.
Family flowers enly.
Donations if wished to St
Mary's, Stoke by Nayland,
clo E Gwimsell & Son, 112
Ipswich Eand, Colchester.
The 9.30 thin from London
Liverpool Street will be met
at Colchester.

WATHERS - lacque (née Ward).

Peacefully at home on
December II th. Beloved wife
of Trevor and much loved
mother of Nick, Sally and
Emma. Service at All Saints
Church, Leighton Buszand at
11 am on December 17th,
followed by a family herial,
Family flowers only.
Departure if desired to The
Royal Maraden Hospital,
Suiton may be sent to S.R.
Dillamore Led, 16 Old Road,
Linslade, Leighton Buzzand,
Beds. 107 7EF.

SMITH - On 13th December 1997, peacefully at Amesbury, Lorm Todd Smith JP. aged 22 years. Wife of the late James H.F. Smith, mether of Deborah and Stephen. Funeral Service at St Mary & St Melor Church, Amesbury on Thursday 18th December at 2.30 pm. No flowers by request.

WEEDY - Biron Mathew BSc.
Phd. FIEE CEng. Peacefully
after a long filmers and with
dedicated care at Mongreen
Hospital on Thursday
Decamber lith 1997. Dearly
loved husband of Betty and
father of Kate and Laurence.
Formerly Southampton
University. Pennaul Service
on Friday Decamber 19th at
Southampton Crematorium
East Chapel at 2.30 pm.
Donations, if wished, to the
Airheimer's Disease Society
of J Lavenace & Soon, 17 St.
Danys Road, Fortewood,
Southampton SO17 2GM. TAYLOR - Wilfrid Arthur Bryan died in hospital on 11th December. Funezal at Lytham Crematorium 1230pm on Thursday 18th December. No flowers planse.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

CORRY-SHITH - The Puneral Service of the late Elspeth

Service of the late Eispeth Clare Corry-Smith will be held at St Andrew's Church Swaresey on Friday 19th December at 4 pm, followed by counstitud at Combridge Chy Counstorium.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Mailer - A Memorial Service will be held for Mr James Derrick Miller at The Roman Catholic Church of The Outory, 141 Hagley Boad, Bigbeston, Rimingham on Wednesday, 4th February 1998 at 11 am If you will be attending BSUP to The

attending RSVP to The

Secretary, Harris & Sheldon Group Limited, North Cour Packington Park, Merider

MARRIAGES

WARDLE - David Bernard CEE peacefully aged 92 of Rewdley, Worcestershire, formerly of Blackharth, London. Cremation at Stourbridge Eriday 19th December 3 pm. Donations for the Guild of 6t George clo B. Ince Funeral Directors, Rank House, 8 Sevenside South, Worcestershire DY12 2DE, tet (01299) 403105.

WATERER - Euphan, on December 12th percefully in Bembridge, Loving wife of John. Belorted and Scinnisch mother of Phillip, Catharine and Bugh and her many grandchildren. Private family funeral already held. Memorial Service and committel 12 noon Thursday January 29th 1998 at St Michael's and All Angels Parish Church, Coombe Bissett, near Seisbury.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

FAX: 0171 481 9313

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

BETTS - In memory of my beloved husband Lt. Coi. Frank Betts MBE, Coldstream Guards, 16th December 1985. Miss you always, love Jans. CARTER - Elicen Mary (Doodles) on the fifth anniversary of her death. Much loved and respected by all who knew her. COWARD - Sir Noel. COWARD - Sir Noel. Remambered with love on his birthday. Graham and joan. Phillips joan.
December 16th 1989, My beloved husband, you live forever in my heart and the love that I have is yours. Val.

PiGGOTT - Charles Antony Piggott M.A., Ph.D. Ramembered, a brilliant and gifted young man:
Kelvinside Academy,
Edhaburgh University, The
City of Landon.

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James N.B. Cook and Mrs. Marcia McCallech (a6a Priestley) at Ston College.

Sport ticket specialist Great Portland Entertainme

DAPHNE FIELDING

Daphne Fielding, formerly Marchioness of Bath, author, died on December 5 aged 93. She was born on July 11, 1904.

oming from the gild-ed world of Evelyn Waugh's Oxford. Daphne Fielding married a viscount, became a marchioness. married a war hero, had a spot of trouble about bigamy, and lived the second half of her long and zestful life, mostly in self-exile. writing about the first half.

Daphne Winifred Louise

Vivian was the elder daughter of the stormy marriage of 4th Baron Vivian and Barbara Fanning, and once played ring-a-ring-a-roses with Edward VII. Her twin aunts had been maids of honour to Queen Victoria.

Her mother left when she was four (and was to marry four times), and her father's indulgence of Daphne's mischievous spirits made her a proper little madam. And sometimes an improper one: she was removed from one school after she and an accomplice used their compasses to skewer a buttock each of an unwary class mistress. So it was an eccentric and itinerant education, burnished in Paris, where she was sent at 16 and learnt to love the opera. Meanwhile she had become so beautiful that her brother Tony used to hire out her photograph at Eton for a shilling an hour". Augustus John drew

her portrait. In London, where her father took a house for the season, she made friends with a theatrical set including Tallulah Bankhead. and in Oxford she knew Harold Acton, Robert Byron, Evelyn Waugh (who dedicated to her The Ordeal of Gilbert Pinfold). In Oxford she also met Henry, Viscount Weymouth, the heir to Longleat and the Bath family estate in Wiltshire, whom she married twice: once

Murs

secretly, then for show, First came a bit of horseplay, when they went out riding dressed as highway-men, and demanded coins from passers-by. The mar-quess disapproved so strongly of this extortion that he forbade his son to see Daphne. Her parents, too, opposed the march, so the first wedding, in

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1926, was conducted clandestinely, with each set of parents kept in ignorance and the two parties using their second Christian names when the barns were read. He was 21, she 22. Lord Weymouth was then sent to Texas by his family in "strict training for the marathon of matrimony". She, meanwhile, wore the wedding ring on a chain around her neck. When he returned the following year he declared himself still in love, and the marquess relented. The marriage now had to be regularised, and for the benefit of families and the aristoc-racy in general (which came to much the same thing) a big

recorded by Cecil Beaton. The couple ran with a wild and moneyed group — Duff Coopers, Rothermeres, Devonshires, Westminsters - and enjoyed more than a decade of cruises, bicycling trips and getting "spiflicated" at weekend parties. At the end of the evening, they would drink a libation to Bacchus as a last toast, in vain hopes of postponing the morning after. They lived at Sturford Mead, an idyllic house on the Longleat estate, in luxury if not ancestral splendour, and cultivated friends such as the painter Rex Whistler.

wedding was organised at St Martin-in-the-Fields and duly

There were no lions yet at Longleat, but the pekinese, the terrier, the retriever and the parrot misbehaved with agreeable panache. In 1951 Lady Bath wrote a short account of the even grander life there at the turn of the century, Before the Sunset Fades. She had also taken up painting, writing to Evelyn Waugh that her muse was "more inspired by kippers than by the Queen or Mr Anlee".

It was a happy marriage,

producing four sons (the eldest of whom died in infancy) and a daughter. But Lord Weymouth spent much of the war as a German prisoner of war, and difficulties - though not acrimony - ensued when he returned, and succeeded to the title in 1946. The unorthodox nuptial arrangements were matched by the peculiar circumstances of the eventual divorce. On a single day in May 1953, Lady Bath and the Hon David Tennant were granted reciprocal, uncontest-



هڪذائن ريايمل

Daphne Fielding and Lord Bath on the occasion of their second wedding in 1927

ed divorces on the grounds of the adultery of Lord Bath and Mrs Virginia Tennant (the judge exercising his discretion concerning Mr Tennant's own misconduct"). Two months later the Baths would each remarry, while remaining friends. But things were not to

work out quite so neatly. On her 49th birthday, Daphne married Major Alex-ander Fielding, who had worked in the Resistance in Crete during the war, and as Xan Fielding had written about his capture and narrow escape from a Gestapo death sentence. But the following vear a book of reminiscences. Mercury Presides by Daphne Fielding, revealed the secret marriage, which had inconveniently not been cited in the divorce papers. Changing the decree took 18 months, and severely depleted the resources of her husband, who lived for many years in anticipation of a handsome legacy that never came through.

Selling their house in Cornwall, the Fieldings moved to live rather insalubriously in Tangier, which was so humid that shoes left in cupboards soon produced fine crops of mushrooms. But wine was only a shilling a litre in 1957. and Daphne made some money by writing for the papers about the decline of the English seaside postcard and other social issues. In 1961 she published a novel, The Adonis Garden. Evelyn Waugh wrote: "it is as though Norman Douglas and Nancy Mitford and Ernest Hemingway had sat down tight to a paper game." This was probably

The Fieldings moved to Portugal, and Daphne began working on a history of the Cavendish Hotel with George Kinnaird. But Kinnaird was living in England, and she decided that it was "as unnatural for two people to produce a book as for three people to produce a baby". Although it had been Kinnaird's idea, she took over what was to become her best-known book. The Duchess of Jermyn Street (1964), a biography of Rosa Lewis, with a preface by Evelyn Waugh.

Fielding had known the Cavendish from forbidden trysts in the 1920s and from

stays there during the Blitz. and well remembered its hostess, whose stays were said to be autographed by Daphne's old friend Edward VII. In 1976 the BBC ran a 25-part fic-tionalised series about Rosa Lewis, called The Duchess of Duke Street. It was a great success, and a further 25 parts were broadcast the following year. Fielding, unfortunately, was given no formal credit, but her agent at least ensured that her book was republished.

From Portugal, the Field-ings moved to Languedoc, where they welcomed artists and writers such as Lawrence Durrell and Elisabeth Frink as guests. But although she embraced new experiences with enthusiasm, the people of her youth remained the most vivid to Daphne. Her life of Lady Cunard and her daugh-ter, Emerald and Nancy (1968), was followed by a second instalment of memoirs, The Nearest Way Home (1970), which was dedicated to

Dirk Bogarde.

In the late 1970s, Xan Fielding left Daphne. and her future looked likely to be lonely. However, she soon struck up with Ben Kittridge, who had known and admired her from decades before. She went to live with him in Arizona, learning to love the desert and the cactuses, and remained there until his death seven years later, when she retired to Gloucestershire.

In 1978 she had written The Face on the Sphinx, a portrait of Gladys Deacon. Duchess of Marlborough, who had had one of the first facelifts. The operation, to inject her cheeks with paraffin wax, had been a disaster, for gravity triumphed and turned her into something of a gargoyle (she subsequently went mad). But the book was based largely on society gossip which turned out to be very inaccurate. She never wrote another book, but her writing - and especially her memoirs - will remain as vivid glimpses of life through seven decades among the classes who didn't exactly have to work.

Daphne Fielding's second marriage was dissolved in 1978. She is survived by two sons from her first marriage. Her son Alexander succeeded as Marquess of Bath in 1992.

N. C. SAINSBURY

N. C. Sainsbury, linguist and librarian, died on November 20 aged 87. He was born on July 14, 1910.

DURING his long and distinguished career in librarianship, Norman Sainsbury was principal of two of the country's most illustrious oriental collections: at London University's School of Oriental and African Studies and at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Born in Hampshire - for

which he retained a lifelong affection - he won a scholarship to Portsmouth Grammar School, before winning a ma-jor classical scholarship to Cambridge, where he was also a Kitchener scholar at Peterhouse. Mastery of the

classics was an ideal preparation for a change of academic direction, and he proceeded to read for the oriental languages tripos. He took firsts in part I in classics and in both parts in oriental languages. His prow-ess in Middle Eastern languages was recognised in the award of the E.G. Browne scholarship, which he held at Pembroke College, 1932-33.

Sainsbury must have mapped out his career while still at college, for he obtained certificates from the Library Association in cataloguing and other branches of library work in 1928 and 1929. He took up his first post in librarianship at Cambridge University Lib-rary in 1932, beginning with cataloguing duties and later helping to plan the move to new buildings.

From 1935 until 1947, with a break for war service, when he was seconded first to the War Office and then to the Foreign Office, he was assistant keeper in the department of oriental printed books and manuscripts at the British Museum. where he was responsible for books and manuscripts in Persian and Turkish.

Sainsbury never spoke in detail about the nature of his duties during the war, but for a time he was employed at Bletchley Park, where his keen and analytical mind would certainly have been useful.

In 1947 he became librarian at the School of Oriental and African Studies. The war had led to considerable arrears in cataloguing, and the significant growth of oriental studies recommended by the Scarborough Commission brought parallel growth in the library's holdings.By the time of Sainsbury's resignation in 1950, the stock had grown to at least 100,000 volumes providing the makings of the internationally celebrated collection that it subsequently became. The staff, meanwhile, increased from six to 15. Sainsbury also edited the school's Bulletin.

He left the school to take up new duties, again of a confidential nature, at the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham, but in 1956 he was appointed keeper of oriental books at the Bodleian Library, where he remained until his retirement in 1976.

His contributions to librarianship, both at the School of Oriental and African Studies and the Bodleian were principally organisational. He was concerned to build up teams of specialists adequate to embrace the heterogeneous branches of learning covered by the designation oriental studies". He inherited a minimal establishment both in London and in Oxford, and left both libraries with far more satisfactory staffing levels.

In the oriental reading room of the Bodleian he created a catalogue which unified all the oriental language materials in his charge, with the exception of Chinese. His knowledge of the history of the oriental manuscript collections was unique, and he set himself the task of providing descriptions of all such material that was hitherto unrecorded.

He also worked tirelessly on a card catalogue of Arabic manuscripts. For this task, which required mastery of the two early Latin printed catalogues and the standard German bio-bibliographies, his linguistic accomplishments ideally suited him. In his distinctive and eminently readable hand, he wrote out some 5,000 entries, which were subsequently typed on to cards over several years.

While he was keeper, the library's holdings were en-riched by more than 100 Middle Eastern manuscripts. Turkish, a language which particularly fascinated him. benefited most, with early Ottoman imprints complementing the manuscript acquisitions. Valuable additions were also made to the Arabic. Persian, Armenian and Ethiopic collections. Outside his own department he helped with work to improve the library's security.

He was a man who was courageous, both physically and morally. If a cherished principle appeared to him to be in danger of violation he would stand by this no matter what the cost might be to himself. Once a staff member proved in his judgment to be worthy of his loyalty he would support such a person to the

In his leisure time he took a keen interest in music and opera, and was a regular attender at Glyndebourne. His ability to solve crossword puzzies was famous.

He was married twice, in the first instance to Norah Mary Evans, who predeceased him in 1974. His second marriage was to Margaret Beven, a colleague at the Bodleian and family friend. who survives him. There were no children by either marriage.



THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH

Gerald Legge, 9th Earl of Dartmouth, died on December 14 aged 73. He was born on April 26, 1924.

THE Earl of Dartmouth was the first husband of Raine Countess Spencer, who made his successive names famous to a wide public, first as the Hon Mrs Gerald Legge, then as Viscountess Lewisham and ultimately as Countess of Dartmouth.

Gerald Humphry Legge was educated at Eton, going

straight from there into the Army. He served in Italy during the latter part of the Second World War as a captain in the Coldstream Guards and was mentioned in dispatches.

After the war he trained as an accountant, was a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and in 1958 became a director of Rea Brothers, the bankers. He served as chairman of Ocean Wilson Holdings Ltd. He was also chairman of the Royal Choral Society and, following his

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

second marriage to a Brazilian, he was chairman of the Anglo-Brazilian Society. Presumably more for the sake of his name than anything else, he was made an honorary LLD of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, in 1969.

In 1958 Gerald Legge assumed the courtesy title of Viscount Lewisham once his father succeeded his eldest brother as 8th Earl of Dartmouth. Four years later he. in turn, succeeded his father as 9th Earl in October 1962.

The Legge family descended from Thomas Legge, who was Sheriff of London in 1343 and twice Lord Mayor. George Legge, created 1st Baron Dartmouth in 1682, rose to be Admiral of the Fleet and was sent to intercept William of Orange, but failed and ended his days in the Tower of London. His son, however, found favour with Queen Anne and became Lord Privy Seal and 1st Earl of the name. Subsequent earls have included a Knight of the Garter, a Fellow of the Royal Society and a number of courtiers. Gerald Dartmouth's father was Chief Constable of Berk-

shire from 1932 to 1953. The 9th Earl, a gentle and charming man, is best remembered for being the quiet partner in a flamboyant marriage. Raine McCorquodale had been a popular debutante and was well-known as the daughter of the romantic novelist, Barbara Cartland. They were married in July 1948 at St Margaret's, Westminster, and In bridesmaids (among whom were Lady Pamela Mountbatten and Lady Caroline Thynne - daughter of the Marchioness of Bath, later Daphne Fielding) to Londonderry House for a glinering reception. By 1954 Raine was a councillor in Westminster she was later to be elected to the LCC and the GLC - who had provoked a famous stir by complaining about the ash trays full of cigarette ends and half-empty coffee cups at

London Airport

a motor-coach transported the

For some years they lived in 14-bedroom house in Hill Street in Mayfair, but sold this in 1974. In 1978 the Dartmouths were divorced. The earl had cited Lord Spencer, but the divorce was granted on the grounds of the countess's adultery "with a man against whom the charge is not proved". Lord Dartmouth subsequently married Mrs Gwendoline Seguin in 1980, while Lady Dartmouth married Lord Spencer (and, after his death, briefly, the Comte de Chambrunj. For a time the Dartmouths lived in an apartment in the block in Berkeley Square where the Spencers also had a London apartment

Gerald Dartmouth is survived by his second wife, Gwen; their son. Viscount Lewisham, who succeeds to the earldom; two younger sons, one of whom. Rupert, is a novelist like his grandmother, and a daughter, Lady Charlotte di Carcaci.



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THE CHAUCHARD GALLERY AT THE LOUVRE.

OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT. IFROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The President of the Republic this morning opened the magnificent collection of modern pictures which was bequeathed to the nation by the late M. Chauchard, the founder of the Magasins du Louvre. The collection has been installed in the Pavillon de Flore in the Musee du Louvre, and there M. Fallières was received this morning by the Presidents of the Senate and the Chamber, by M. Loygues, the former Minister of Public Instruction, who was chiefly instrumental in securing this great legacy of art for the nation, and by the Director of the National Museum

It is, indeed, a magnificent collection which the greatest of Paris shopkeepers, the multi-millionaire, the indefangable advertiser. Chauchard, has bequeathed to France. On the uccasion of the death of that remarkable Parisian last June 1 sent a sketch and appreciation of his career, and at the same time gave some account of his collection of pictures and of the great sums which he had expended upon it. The collection will now be enshrined for ever in the Louvre, where it will not only be a monument of a very great epoch

ON THIS DAY December 16, 1910

The magnificent collection of modern pictures bequeathed to the French nation by the greatest of Paris shopkeepers", the multi-millionaire M Chauchard, included some 30 Corots and works by Millet, Meissonier and Theodore Rousseau

in French art, but will also mark the date of the "arrival" of the shopkeeper class, as exemplified by the career of the donor ... In the midst of all the poetry and beauty which is shed from the canvases of Corot and of Millet hangs the very characteristic portrait of M. Chauchard himself, by Benjamin Constant, and the admirably painted silk-faced frock-coat, with the red ribbon of the Legion of Honour, the flamboyant silvery whiskers, the satin stock, with its enormous pearl pin, display the successful tradesman of expansive

and distinctly artistic sympathies. But what a dream of beauty and poetry the

Chauchard Gallery is! There are, to begin with, no fewer than some 30 Corots, and all of them are of Corot's best. There is the famous L'Etang de Ville d'Avray" with the dreamy fleecy birches in the foreground, and infinite peace fading in the dim gradations over the lake to the wooded background. There is the "Danse des Nymphes," one of those pictures which made Baudry declare to Corot himself. then comparatively obscure, that he was worthy to rank with Giorgione as a figurepainter. There is "Le Repos sous les Saules." "Les Bücherons," "Le Soir." Le Matin. "Le Passage du Gue," and "La Danse des Bergers," all filled with the wistfulness in repose, which makes Corot's pictures restful and as comforting as Wordsworth's poetry. Side by side with these in at least one of the

rooms are the Millets. What an unequalled conjunction! Crowds will long continue to gather in from of the "Angelus," which Chauchard bought back for France from America at a cost of some £30,000 ... "La Bergére" is now a great picture. The redcloaked figure of the little shepherdess knitting as she walks in front of her flock and the dim evening light upon the fleeces of the sheep have been the inspiration and the despair of many a lesser painter. Then there is "Le Vanneur," with its mastery of motion ...

Wanted: canny ITF entrants. Large rewards *

The story so far

Tell me more about this FA Cup league, then. Well, despite the name, it isn't strictly only an FA Cup league. The Tennents Cup games in Scotland count too. But that doesn't start at the same time, does it? No, the Scottish premier league teams don't enter the competition until January 24.

So if I've entered a team especially for the cup, it should start off with English premier league players. Exactly. And it's probably a good idea to select players from teams with good draws. Such as?

Arsenal or Leeds defenders. Both clubs are at home to first division sides, and shouldn't concede many goals. Even Crystal Palace might get a home win against Scuntborpe or Ilkeston. West Ham look comfortable too, at home to Lincoln City or Emley, and could score goals. Hartson might be a good buy. But what about the magic of the cup? The unpredictable nature of the world's greatest knock-out

Exactly, there is a risk. Wimbledon against Wrexham could be tricky - Wreatiam have a great cup record. Blackburn against Wigan?

A case in point on paper, a home win — but it is a local derby: Wigan's cup final. So you never know.

This is going to take some thought. And, while we're at it, aren't there a limited number of games? Every round has successively fewer ties.

Don't forget replays; if you think that, say, Portsmouth v Villa will be a goalless draw, with Villa winning the replay, then buy Villa defenders. But what if they were drawn away to Manchester United in the next round?

Well, the next round may prompt you to make a few transfers, certainly. But anyway, what makes you think Manchester United will even be in the next round? Good point. And the Scottish clubs will be in by then.

Now you're getting the idea. Hang on, though — in the semi-finals and final, there will only be four, then two teams playing . . . Eight and four, don't forget Scotland! Ah yes, of course. But certainly only four in the two finals. So only eight of your team's players will be in action

by the end. It's the same for everyone, I'm afraid. And last year, Falkirk were in the Tennents Cup final, but not in the premier league, and Chesterfield, a second division side, were in the FA Cup semi-finals!

... the magic of the cup. Thank you.

Jumpers for Christmas? There are lots of outstanding examples in

this week's ITF lists - 37.788

places in the case of one team

The ability of teams to win without a manager is an oft-noted football phenomenon. Only this season. Sheffield Wednesday thrashed Bolton 5-0 in the interregnum between David Pleat and Ron Atkinson.

It also seems to work in Interactive Team Football. This weekend's highest climber in the ITF lists, H. Astbury of Blair Gowrie, Perthshire, has not yet seen fit to replace Gerry Francis as manager of his team, Haddy's Hopefuls, but still enjoyed a 50-point week which saw his selection rise 37,788 places to 67,161st.

Seven of his team are Scotland-based; Jackie McNamara, the Celtic full-back, was his top scorer with ten points. although Sieb Dykstra, the Dundee United goalkeeper, and Marcus Hall, the Coventry City and England under-21 defender, who played in midfield and scored his first league goal against Tottenham on Saturday, both weighed in with nine. Darren Jackson and Eoin Jess, each

scored five. Things are close in mid-

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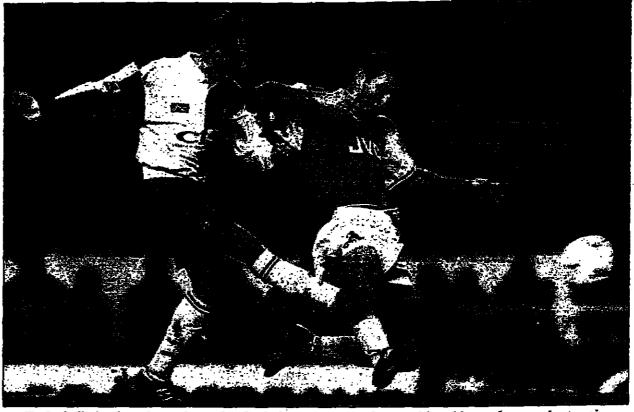


THE TIMES

table: M. Gaylor, N. Bow and R. Shepstone, in joint 109,280th position with 223 points, all scored 44 points over the same seven-day per-iod, and found themselves together again sharing 77,288th place.

Mr D. Clarke was the second highest jumper, up 33,621 positions with 49 points, but the same total accrued by an ITF entrant higher up the league resulted in a rise of "only" 30,122 places. The Christmas tree formation in the real world refers to a 4-3-2-

■ ITF helpline: 01582 702720.



Kevin Gallacher in action at the weekend. Blackburn's FA Cup draw could see him on the scoresheet again

lineup; in ITF, it is an illustration of the relative density of numbers of players on different points totals; the higher you go, the fewer share the same numbers of points.

NICK SZCZEPANIK

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LEAGUE UPDATES





WOMEN'S LEAGUE

	B Fletcher C Purdy S Brooks	
•	S Whitfield	
	S Reader J Gardner	
	M Hussain	
•	L Emery	
•	P Johnston	
}	A Hembrow	
•	P Sigan	
	S Allport C Purdy	
i	A Bearn	
	H Irvine	
	J Peppar	
	P Bee	
	K Tindall	
,	T Fenn Adach	
,	Autach	

Kates Cosmos Sandras Specials Snail Busters Snau Busters Sophie Reader Fa Good Luck Malika Buggsy's Boys XII Superstars The Breconians 1 Patslo Uto Kates Upstarts Harry's Heroes Hel's Belies Peppar Pots Bumble Five Flash XI Over The Moon

STUDENTS' LEAGUE

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•	J Windeatt
j	I McGill
l	P Henson
2	F Ferguson
•	J Frost
1	C Van Hough M Titterington
•	M Interington
?	D Garrett
.	M Griffiths J Gillyley
	J СШУКУ 7 7
•	Z Tezer E Carmichael
•	E CALIFOLITIES

H D G Is A Sad Waster Dog Soldiers
6 Chumbawumbas
Witheridge is ill
Jansen's XI
A Tight Horse Is Fun
15 Chumbawumbas Set Against Saucy Sue Barker Variety Sports Inter Stjohn's whitehse The Splice Boys The Town The Avengers XI Ziggy Greaves XI Jedi Masters

YOUTH LEAGUE

D Lewis R Wicke M McPhillips M Roberts J Laurence C Oyston T Smith O Ledgard K Tindall G Calderban D Greenman P Carter A Montesth

Lewis Boys 11
Robbed
Horley Flames
Jansen's XI
15 Chumbawumbas
Ballygallyrovers
Krystonia Three
Smooth United
The Offspring FC
Up The League FC
Olivers Army
Flash XI
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D Shuter
N Wheatley Mary Ann Kennedy Mr D Edbrooke Staine C Sloan Mr M Jones P Turner
A Luckhurst
D Shuter
D Shuter
D Shuter
D Ross
J Strickland
DBusby
Graeme Dahnor
P Turner
A Luckhurst
J Hunt
Mr M. Innee

Mr M Jones AJ Hastings G Dotan
R Calder
S Legg
Burr
Mary Ann Kennedy
A Neviszski
Mr P Turner
J Hunt J Hunt
J Hunt
J Kitchen
R Lockyer
P Turner P Rees D Walton G Kooner
D Shuter
Andrew Bates
S Legg
P Rawlings
Chris Forde Steven Adams Mr K Lethby

MI K Lettiny
B Bare
Barba Papa a la Bacon
J Hum
K Farhall
Susan Makin
Richard Callis
Michael Huddlestone
P Bown
J W Goody J W Goody P Turner
P Turner
P Turner
Tim Oldfield
Andy Robson
G Millington
D Shuter
DM Carter
Adam Fizzjolm
J Hunt
W Clark
C Paget C Paget Jeremy Dwyer Brian O'Hare Mr A Melion

Graeme Dabnor Mukund P Turner A Luckhurst A Luckburst
Henry Wheeler
J Hunt
A Luckburst
P See
P Darmell
Andrew

Lic 4
Poachers never change
Rainbows Topteam
Out Of The Blue
Mr Wads XI
No name
Don 2
H D G Is A Sad Waster
Inverness Undecided rantingham FC

Turners Earners 5 Rassell 2 Big Mac Europe Liberos ClanB John Hunt Taunton 7 Dog Soldiers Bobs Boysó Goose 5 Burr's Spurs 4 Too Farr

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Turners Earnt I
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Warmabe Heroes XI
Pegasus And Unicorns

John Hunt Taumon A Zara 3 St. Patrick's Charioteers lohn Hunt Taumton 6 St Remy Streetlighters Coulou Coulou Turners Exmers (0 Eddie Woo Caroline A Quito Fan John Hunt Taunton 3 Woo!

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

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Leots United
West Harn United
Coverary City
Winoblesion
Newcastle United
Derby County
Crystal Palace
Coventry City
Leicester City
Coventry City
Leicester City
Newcastle United
Blackburn Rovers
Chelsea
West Harn United

asusea Vest Ham United

Paul Simpson
Simon Grayson
Simon Grayson
Simon Grayson
All-Inge Haaland
Sieve Potts
John Salako
Dean Blackwell
Robert Lee
Johnstan Hunt
David Tuttle
Kyle Lighthoustne
Rib Savage
Richard Shaw
David Bany
Kevin Gelfacher
Frank Leboeuf
Tim Breacher
Bjorn Kvarme
Kenny Cunningham
David Wetherall
Phil Babb
Paul Williams
Dean Holdsworth
Dave Wasson
Gareth Scuthgate
Dewid Seaman
Teddy Sheringham
Nigel Martyn
Andy Townsend

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Anny townsens
Lee Sharpe
Andrew Liddell
Kevin Hinchcock
Lee Dinon
Ian Pearce
Nicky Bott
Ugo Ebiogu
Patrick Berger
John Hendrie
Kevin Muscat
Pontus Kaamark
Andy Roberts
Chris Powell
Lars Bokinen
Robin Van Der Laan
John Beresiord
Graeme Le Saux
Gary Mabbutt
Richard Jobson
Jason Euell
Robbie Fowler
Roger Cross
Neil Rettleam
Andy Sinton
Stewart Castledine
Kroev Keller

Kasey Keller Stewer Lomas Colin Hendry Darren Pischer David Beckham John Scales John Hartson

Leeds United
Barnsley
Chelsea
Assenal
West Ham
Manchester United
Aston Villa
Liverpool
Barnsley
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Blackburn Rovers
Derby County
Newcastle United
Chelsea Crystal Palace Manchester United Tottenham Hotspur Liverpool Leicester City Barnsley Aston Villa

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INTERNET LEAGUE

Mike Madden Mary Ann Kennedy George Mijuskovich Graeme Dabnor Mary Ann Kennedy Andrew Bates Chris Forde Barba Papa a la Bacon Susan Makin Richard Callis

Michael Huddle P Bown Tim Oldfield Andy Robson Andy Roosen
Jeremy Dwyer
Brian O'Hare
Mary Ann Kenne
Philip Ward
Michael Horan
Graeme Dabnor Inverness Undecided
Big Mac Europe
St Remy Strikers
Too Farr
Wetherby Racing 7
Game of Two Pints
Novote Spoilers Navate Spailers Spud2 Sydney Celtic FC Pulp Faction III Bees XI Bees XI
Winster Warrioty 1
Club 18-30
Nudge Nudge Wink Win
The Warriots (Come o Oilrig Pack RNG Wannabe Heroes XI

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS All 1997-8 matches in the FA Cading Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS AWARDED Gosliceper
Keeps clean sheet (per haif)** +3 points
Scores goal +20 points
Saves penalty +12 points Scores goal On winning side Full backs/Ce Keeps clean shed Scores goal +4 pokuts Middleld player Keeps clean sheet* Scores goal Draws POINTS DEDUCTED

Concedes goal Concedes goal -3 points ** Must have played a complete helf in the restch to earn ± 3 points "Must have played for 75 minutes in the match \uparrow Must have played for 45 minutes in the match

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENTER ITF

£1,000, a signed Mitre football and a Mitre Sports bag, and tickets to a premier league match of your choice can be won every month, plus the chance to win £10,000 in a separate FA Cup League so enter the ITF now.

The manager of the month can be won by any team, no matter where it is in the overall ITF league. The prize simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one month. If you are a student or a woman (18 or over) you may also enter the appropriate mini-league, while under-18 year olds enter the Youth league. These all carry separate monthly prizes. By entering the ITF, your team will automatically be entered

into a separate FA Cup league. Your players will earn you points for the FA Cup league (Littlewoods FA Cup and Tennents Scottis FA Cup) as well as the main ITF league.

Remember the earlier you register, the more transfers your

HOW TO ENTER

Entries to ITF via The Times are now by phone only, on

0891 405 011 From the Republic of Ireland only +44 990 100 308

You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-

button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). ■ Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.

■ Do not spend more than 35 million

Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one club. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow the step-by-step instructions.

You will be given a ten-digit personal indentification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number as you will need your PIN for making transfers and check-

A new team will score points on future games. 0891 calls cost 50p per minute. Your made from a pay phone. In the event of there being

more than one manager of the month, the winner will be event of there being more than one league winner, a

经存货的过程的存储器的协会的独立的基础的

SPORT

stories and reports from Sky, leading newspapers and the up bring you news about your own team Ske a shot.

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WHAT'S NEW

A guide to players, transfers and bargains

When a club ends its losing streak, the players may become bargains worth transferring into your team

t the risk of sounding like a Sixties' folk song. A for every team, there comes a time in every season; the moment when the corner is turned. It could be the result of a lucky bounce, a poor backpass by an opponent, the return from injury of a key player, or an inspired positional switch made by a new manager. It could even be a wonder goal — a shot that previously, would have screamed just over the crossbar, or rebounded heartbreak-

ingly from the woodwork.
The upturn in fortune may not last long enough to salvage the campaign, but while it continues there is a spring in the step of every supporter, and Monday morning does not seem so bad; it is even bearable to turn to the sports pages and read the match

For followers of Sheffield Wednesday, Saturday's nar-row defeat at West Ham notwithstanding, The Pink 'Un has started to make very good reading indeed, For ITF entrants who stuck by Owls players through the dark days of devaluation, there have been similarly rewarding experiences when trawling through the ITF lists. The arrival of Ron Atkinson as manager may not be as signifi- D Huckerby (Coventry) \$2.5m cant as the recovery from long N Redfeam (Barneley) 23m term injuries of Peter Atherton A Booth (Shell Wed)



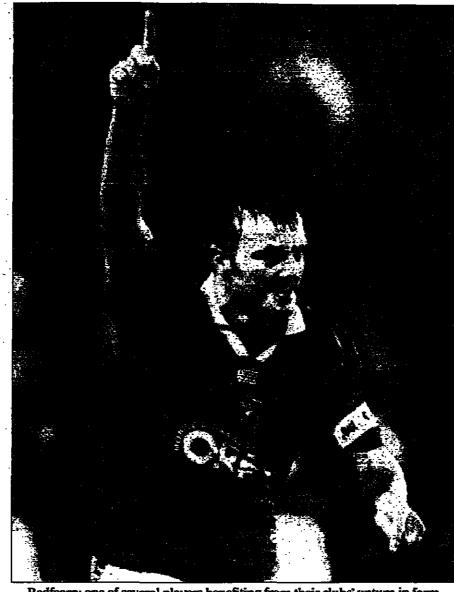
Booth have begun to justify earlier valuations, and Kevin Pressman has regained his confidence in goal. Liabilities: have become assets once

Could there also be similar stirrings elsewhere in south Yorkshire? Barnsley recently took three points at Anfield, and were unlucky victims of the Wednesday revival at Hillsborough a week ago. On Saturday they came from behind to salvage a draw against Newcastle at Oakwell, in a game which featured well-

taken goals from John Hendrie and Neil Redfearn, the captain. His curling shot to give his side the lead was an echo of the free-kick from which he scored against Wednesday. He and his colleagues will face the vital trip to White Hart Lane this Saturday with a renewed sense of optimism in the knowledge that their opponents confidence is at as low an ebb as their own was some months ago.

In Scotland, a manager who faced early doubts from his club's followers. Wim Jansen of Celtic, has masterminded a steady improvement in his side's fortunes, resulting in their Scottish Coca Cola Cup final victory over Dundee United and a 1-0 win against Hearts, the league leaders, on Saturday.

Beware the false dawn, however. Any optimism in the Coventry City camp following their 4-0 win on Saturday will be tempered by the knowledge that they now face six difficult games, including a visit from Manchester United and a trip to the fortress of Upton Park. Even so, Darren Huckerby looks in good form: "We all love the lad. He's a complete and utter natural," Gordon Strachan, his manager, said after two powerful strikes had helped put paid to any hopes of an early Tottenham revival.



THIS WEEK'S MOVES

There are no transfers in ITF this week

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

 \square YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

 $\hfill\square$ EACH TEAM that was entered at the start of the season was allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date had its number of transfers reduced by three per week up to December 13. Teams registered before noon that day were allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered since then and from now on will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the

 $\hfill\square$ THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you

☐ YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of

☐ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon

☐ YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score

☐ CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Aberdeen

Transfer number: 0891 884 628. Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

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e e	20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	_2 27	31802 31803	G Halle R Molensar	Leeds Utd Leeds Utd	2.00 2.00	4	19	41902	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	1	29
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702	P O'Donnell	Celtic	3.00	0	7	50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	6.00	ō	:
503	R Blinker	Celtic	3.00	5	18	50302	S Collymore	Aston Villa	5.00	ō	
704	C Burley	Celtic	3.00	9	38	50303	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.00	ō	
705	P Lambert	Celtic	3.00	6	11	50401	G Hristov	Barnsley	1.50	0	
301	D Wise	Cheisea	3,50	1	30	50402	J Hendrie	Barnsley	1.50	2	
302	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	4.00	1	31	51102	A Ward	Barnsley	2.00	2	:
303	E Newton	Chelsea	1.50	D	9	50403	C Marcelle	Barnsley	1.00	0	
304	G Poyet	Chelsea	3.00	0	28	50501	K Gallacher	Blackburn R	5.50	4	
301	G McAllister	Coventry City	2.50	1	20	50502	M Dahlin	Blackburn R	4.00	0	
902 903	T Soltvedt J Salako	Coventry City	1.50 1.50	2	21 15	50503	C Sutton	Blackburn R	6.00	2	
	J Salako P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	_	15	50602	N Blake	Bolton W	3.50	3	
904 302		Coventry City	1.00	2	22	50603	P Beardsley	Bolton W	2.00	1	
103	S Rodger D Pitcher	Crystal Palace Crystal Palace	0.25	٥	22	53003	D Holdsworth	Bolton W	3.00	0	
103 104	P Warhurst	Crystal Palace	1.50	1	24	51601	D Jackson	Celtic	4.00	5	
105	A Lombardo	Crystal Palace	3.00	i	22	50703	T Johnson	Celtic	2,50	0	
101	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.50	à	-6	50704	S Donnelly	Celtic	4.50	1	
02	S Eranio	Derby County	3.50	3	24	50705	H Larsson	Celtic	4.50	6	;
03	D Powell	Derby County	1.50	ŏ	6	50801	G Zola	Chelsea	7.00	1	•
04	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	1	19	50802	M Hughes	Chelsea	5.00	0	
05	R Van Der Laan	Derby County	1.00	0	8	50901	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	2	
06	J Hunt	Derby County	1.00	0	14	50902	D Huckerby	Coventry City	2.50	6	
201	R Winters	Dundee United	3.50	3	39	50903	N Whelan	Coventry City	2.00	2	
301	A Smith	Dunfermline	3.50	0	43	51001	N Shipperley	Crystal Palace	1.50	1	1
101	G Speed	Everton	3.50	2	38	51003	B Dyer	Crystal Palace	2.00	0	
102	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	0	51004	M Padovano	Crystal Palace	2.50	0	
103	G Farrelly	Everton	1.50	2	9	51101	D Sturridge	Derby County	4.00	1	
104	D Williamson	Everton	2.00	1	19	51103	F Bajano	Derby County	4.50	4	•
105	J Oster	Everton	2.50	0	.0	51104		Derby County	1.50	0	
501	N McCann	Hearts	3.50	3	47	51105	P Wanchope	Derby County	3.50	1	
301 302	C Jackson B Lavety	Hibemian Hibemian	2.00 2.00	1 0	6 20	51201	A McLaren	Dundee United Dundee United	3.00	1 2	
701	J McIntyre	Kilmamock	2.00	ŏ	20	51202	K Olofsson		4.00 2.00	0	. :
001	D Hopkin	Leeds Utd	3.50	2	25	51301	G Britton	Duntermline	4.00	ŏ	
301	L Bowyer	Leeds Utd	3.00	ō	15	51401	D Ferguson	Everton Everton	3.00	1	
302	A Haaland	Leeds Utd	2.00	_ 3	26	51402 51404	N Barmby D Cadamarteri	Everton	2.50	i	
303	L Sharpe	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	0	51501	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	ò	
304	B Ribeiro	Leeds Utd	2.50	1	7	51502	J Hamilton	Hearts	3.00	ŏ	•
100	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	0	10	51602	S Crawford	Hibernian	3.00	1	
102	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	1	29	51701	P Wright	Kilmamock	5.00	i	1
903	M izzet	Leicester City	2.00	1	35	51702	A Mitchell	Kilmamock	2.50	ġ	·
04	S Taylor	Leicester City	1.50	0	0	51801	J Hasselbaink	Leeds Utd	3.00	1	2
100	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.00	6	49	51803	R Wallace	Leeds Utd	3.50	i	7
102	O Leonhardsen		3.00	6	23	51804	H Kewell	Leeds Utd	2.00	ò	
103	M Thomas	Liverpool	3.00	0	14	51901	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	Ō	1
004	J Redknapp	Liverpool	3.00 4.00	3	17 21	51902	E Heskey	Leicester City	4.50	1	2
106 101	P Ince D Beckham	Liverpool Manchester Utd	8.00	ŏ	44	51903	l Marshall	Leicester City	2.50	0	2
02	R Giggs	Manchester Utd	7.00	ŏ	37	51904	G Fenton	Leicester City	2.00	1	1
103	R Keane	Manchester Utd	5.00	ō	23	52001	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	2	2
04	N Butt	Manchester Utd	4.00	Ŏ	37	52002	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	1	2
05	A Cole	Manchester Utd	7.00	0	60	52003	K Riedie	Liverpool	4.50	0	2
201	B Davies	Motherwell	2.00	0	6	52004	M Owen	Liverpool	4.50	4	
301	R Lee	Newcastle Utd	5.00	1	25	52101	O Solskjaer	Manchester Utd	7.50	0	1
302	K Gillespie	Newcastle Utd	3.50	7	29	52102	T Sheringham	Manchester Utd	7.00	0	3
303	D Batty	Newcastle Utd	2.50	Ō	17	52103	P Scholes	Manchester Utd	6.00	0	2
105	J Barnes	Newcastle Utd	3.00	1	35	52201	O Coyle	Motherwell	3.00	4	2
101	B Laudrup P Gascoigne	Rangers	6.50 6.00	0	25 24	52202 52301	T Coyne	Motherwell Newcastle Utd	3.00 10.00	2	2
102 103	J Them	Rangers Rangers	3.00	2	16	52301	A Shearer F Asprilla	Newcastle Utd	6.00	1	1
104	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	ō	26	52303	J Tomasson	Newcastle Utd	2.00	ò	'
i01	B Carbone	Sheffield Wed	3.00	ĭ	33	52401	M Negri	Rangers	8.50	1	10
701	J Magilton	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	23	52402	S Rozental	Rangers	3.50	ò	,-
502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wed	2.00	2	19	52403	G Durie	Rangers	3.00	ŏ	1
504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wed	1.00	1	- 7	52501	A Booth	Sheffield Wed	3.00	3	2
505	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wed	1,50	3	11	50702	P Di Canio	Sheffield Wed	3.00	4	3
702	R Slater	Southampton	0.75	0	- 6	52503	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wed	2.00	٥	
'04	K Richardson	Southampton	0.50	3	19	52701	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	4	1
705 PAG	C Palmer	Southampton	2.00 1.50	2	20 5	52502	D Hirst	Southampton	2.50	2	2
206	M Oakley	Southampton	1.50 0.75	0	11	52702	E Ostenstad	Southampton	4.00	0	
301 201	A Sekerliogiu	St Johnstone Tottenham H	3.00	1	15	52704	K Davies	Southampton	3.50	2	
301 302	A Sinton		3.00	1	5	52601	G O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.50	2	2
	D Anderton	Tottenham H	2.00	1	20	52602	R Grant	St Johnstone	1.00	0	1
303 304	R Fox D Howells	Tottenham H Tottenham H	2.00	ņ	16	52801	S Iversen	Tottenham H	3,50	0	1
XU4 XO5	D Ginola	Tottenham H	3.00	1	27	52302	L Ferdinand	Tottenham H	7.50	1	- 2
805 101	E Berkovic	West Ham Utd	2.50	3	44	52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham H	3.50	0	1
	S Lomas	West Ham Utd	2.50	3	26	52803	J Domingues	Tottenham H	3.00	0	
102 202		West Ham Utd	2.00	8	13	52901	J Hartson	West Ham Utd	4.50	2	4
103	J Moneur B Endo	Wimbledon	4.00	2	29	52902	P Kitson	West Ham Utd	3.00	4	1
101 102	R Earle N Ardley	Wimbledon	2.00	2	25	52903	l Dowie	West Ham Utd	1.50	Ó	-
)02 102	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	Õ	17	53001	M Gayle	Wimbledon	4.00	1	1
103 104	v Jones M Hughes	Wimbledon	2.00	2	26	53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.00	ò	2
	C Hughes	Wimbledon	1.50	ō	16	53004	C Cort	Wimbledon	3.00	Ĭ	
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				44		ceb.				- 1.	E
Code	Marse	Team	Cost (Sm)	Week	Total	Code	Name	Теап	Cost (£m)	Week	Total
60102	A Miller	Aberdeen	1.50	0	1	61601	J Duffy	Hibernian	2.00	1	2
60201	A Wenger	Arsenal	5.00	-1	26	61701	B Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.00	1	10
60301	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	0	13	61801	G Graham	Leeds United	3.00	1	26
60401	D Wilson	Barnslev	0.50	0	2	61901	M O'Nelli	Leicester City	2.50	-1	22
60501	R Hodgson	Blackburn R	3.50	3	34	62001	R Evans	Liverpool	3.60	3	23
60601	C Todd	Bolton W:	1.50	1	14	62101	A Ferguson	Manchester Utd	5.00	0	35
60701	W Jansen	Cettic	4.00	6	32	62201	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00	3	4
60801	R Guillt	Chelsea	3.50	1	30	62301	K Dalglish	Newcastle Utd	4.00	1	20
60901	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00	3	14	62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	1	32
61001	S Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75	-1	12	62502	R Atkinson	Sheffield Wed	1.50	2	8
61101	J Smith	Derby County	2.50	1	21	62701	D Jones	Southampton	0.50	3	8
61201	T McLean	Dundee United	2.00	0	14	62601	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0,50	1	12
61301	B Paton .	Dunfermline	1.00	1	16	62802	C Gross	Tottenham H	2.00	-1	1
61401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00	1	4	62901	H Redknapp	West Ham Unite		3	16
61501	J Jefferies	Hearts	3.50	O	34	63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	200	1	18

State of the state week and the second of the sec Kilmarmock 21801 G Ketly 21802 D Robertson Leeds Utd Leicester City 21902 S Guppy Liverpool 22001 S Bjornebye 22002 J McAteer 3.00 3.00 4.00 Liverpool Liverpool 22003 R Jones 22101 D Irwin Manchester Utd 3.50 3.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 3.00 3.00 Manchester Utd

from hell....

Still stalling

Wedding blues

Preview: But was Elizabeth Taylor anything like the real Cleopatra?

Timewatch (BBCZ, 9pm). Review: Joe Joseph checks in at the hotel

or mark

Ministerial incapacity

Ministers could justify exploring

other ways of financing a safety net for the long-term sick Page 19

Saddam must be convinced that at

least some members of the interna-

tional community still have the

stomach to take him on Page 19

the invitation list Page 19

mitment to freedom of information

will come when I confront a British

general and he invites me in to

riffle through his in-tray ... Page 18

There comes a point when even

Mrs Soppy has to speak out against

the drivelling infantilism advanc-

...Page 18

..Page 18

__Pages 42, 43

NEWS

Britain puts health ban on EU beef

Britain plunged into a new confrontation with Europe over beef when Jack Cunningham imposed a unilateral ban on imports that do not meet the safety standards required of

The Agriculture Minister announced his decision after the EU voted 14-1 to delay the introduction of such checks throughout the Community until next AprilPages 1, 4

'CJD' blood transfusion scare

Up to 3,000 people treated in 100 British hospitals may have been injected with blood products taken from a donor who died six weeks ago from new variant Creuzfeldt-Jakob Disease, the human form of BSE. None of them is to be told because the Health Department believes the risk is so slight that there is no reason to cause alarm.

Traditional Hague

William Hague and Ffion Jenkins, who have lived together since July, will revert to tradition on the eve of their wedding and spend the night apartPage 2

Dropping in

There was only one certainty for a 56-year-uld skydiver as he fell 2,000ft with a failed parachute. Bren Jones thought: "This is going to hurt".....Page 3

Alan Clark sues

The reputation of Alan Clark, the Conservative MP. diarist, and self-confessed philanderer, was damaged by newspaper articles under his name but were written by a journalist, the High Court

Princess inquiry

The French magistrate leading the investigation into the death of Diana. Princess of Wales is to wind up his inquiry after a failed search for a Fiat Unox..... Page 6 Refugees murdered

An elderly Polish couple who fled

to Britain as refugees after surviving the horrors of Stalin's death camps were murdered by fellow countrymen.... ...Page 7 Lawrence inquiry

An inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence was flawed by "significant weaknesses, omissions and lost opportunities" ac-Authority

Jackal trial The legal defence team of Carlos the Jackal became a one-man band after his lawyers stormed out of a Paris court claiming that his murder trial was illegal and unjust... ... Page 12

Christian Aid row

Harman pressure

World debt.

single parents

Christian Aid condemned as "ab-

surd" a decision by advertising

watchdogs to ban a campaign on

the suffering caused by Third

Labour MPs put Harriet Har-

man under further pressure yes-

terday over government plans to

cut benefits for the disabled and

.Page 10

Cuban misery

News that Cubans will be able to celebrate Christmas as a holiday for the first time in 29 years caused widespread excitement. But most Cubans have little to look forward to Page 13

Soft on dictators

The American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, signalled a switch in United States foreign policy on Africa. softening a previously tough approach towards ...Page 14 dictators

Tigers ask for help

The once proud leaders of the former so-called "tiger" economies of South-East Asia, reeling cording to the Police Complaints from falling stock markets, called ... Page 9 for help....

Coldest day from eastern Europe

Much of Britain will today experience the coldest day of winter with forecasters warning of below freezing conditions and snow. The coldest temperatures are expected in southern England as icy winds spread from eastern Europe. The London Weather Centre said everywhere across the South East would ... Pages 1, 12 struggle to stay above zero today



Protesters man a tree house in poplars at Kingston, Surrey, which are threatened by a development being considered by the council

BUSINESS

Asia turmoli: Japan unveiled a 10 trillion yen package to stabilise its beleaguered financial system on the day that a survey of business confidence suggested that the country may be heading back into _Page 25

Bingo sale: The shake-up of the UK bingo industry continued as Bass sold its Gala bingo chain to a management buy-in team for £279 million in cash......Page 25 Sears deal: The troubled retail group has sold Shoe Express to a company owned by Philip Green in

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 76.6 to 5,121.8. The pound fell to 102.4, falling 1.98 cents to \$1.6329 and 4.02

a deal worth at least £26.7

...Page 25

Cricket: England defeated Pakistan in the Sharjah Trophy by eight runs and qualified for the final. Their opponents will be known after the game between West Indies and India.... Page 46

Football: England are set to take part in a pre-World Cup, four-nation tournament in Morocco in May alongside France, Belgium and the hosts Page 48

Rugby union: Wasps and Bath, the top two teams last season, conceded 50 points at the weekend, signalling a new order at the head of the English club gamePage 45

Boxing: No matter how much Naseem Hamed's admirers believe he is the last word in boxing, he will never achieve recognition until he plennig to DM2.8904...... Page 28 | wins over America Page 48

Tern curtain: As the National Film Theatre devotes a season to the new wave of Russian film-makers, one of its leading lights, Sergei Bodrov, explains the challenges Page 32

Global spirit: Highlights of the weekend's world music festival at the Barbican included Nina Simone in good spirits, even if her voice may have lost some of its lustre.

Castle capers: In Croydon Phil Willmott revives the 18th-century melodrama The Castle Spectre, but the result is more Carry On than Gothic horror Page 33

Sisters spurned: A new show at Manchester City Art Galleries is an admirable attempt to give some 20 Pre-Raphaelite women artists longoverdue recognition Page 34

HOMES

End of the idylk the

family that failed to find

Utopia in the country

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE Why Desmond Llewellyn, gadget master of the Bond films, has trouble changing a light bulb ical ecocomics

Can you help: Like a phoenix. Dorah came through the fire in the South African squatters' camp but now she risks being plunged

tractive and willing woman, men can find a multitude of reasons to justify going to bed with her, no matter what expressions of caution they might make

Lessons of Jail: Education should serve a rehabilitative purpose for the inmates of prisons Page 35 Sales talic Solicitors are now

Windows: Andrew Hinks thought

six-figure turnover

and came back to the city mise on the co-ordination of polit-

For all the happy symbolism there will still be Conservatives inclined to dismiss the nuances of the wedding list because they did not make

salespeoplePage 37

he had nowhere to go as a windowdresser until he designed a jack-inthe-box. Now his business has a

The British Prime Minister has missed an opportunity to justify his legitimate ambition by throwing himself into a battle to obtain a small say in the administration of a future single currency in which London will not immediately participate. By patching up a Franco-

into darkness ...

German alliance against him he has forced a rather shaky compro-

ANATOLE KALETSKY The threat to new Labour is that

voters will stay exactly where they are but that Mr Blair will move so far to the Right that he leaves them high and dry MAGNUS LINKLATER The test of the Government's com-

Fifty ways: Confronted by an at-....Page 17

-- Le Monde

ing on Christmas PETER RIDDELL Geoffrey Robinson should not re-

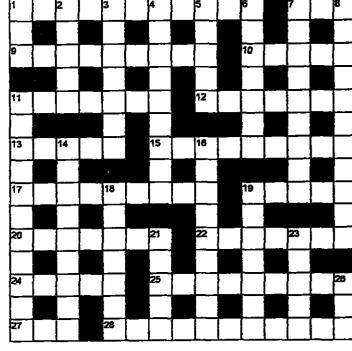
LIBBY PURVES

sign as a minister. His financial affairs are certainly strange and his explanations for his dealings with the Guernsey trust have been confusing and in some respects inconsistent. But nothing has so far emerged to suggest that he has done anything wrong as a Treasury minister _

Daphne Fielding, author; N. C. Selasbury, librarian: The Earl of Dartmouth Page 21

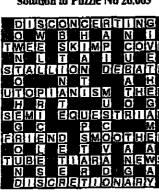
Crime and Disorder Bill; NHS funding; safe havens for newborn; home births; holocaust claims; Gibraltar; Hong Kong tourism; Britannia; male bonding......Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,664



- **ACROSS** 1 Eastern runner in dark suit and
- light shoes (11). 7 Rejected loan for vehicle (3). 9 One elderly relative to dishearten
- another? (5.4). 10 Endless unhappiness for one who's very close (5).
- 1) Grapple with books in Company wind-up (7). 12 An excitable type at the end of the
- match? (7). 13 French publication largely a feeble thing (5).
- 15 Celebrating superior speed in test
- 17 Held up in pass in mounted action (9).
- 19 Vehicle carrying a certain weight of stones (5). 20 Flowers in porch I'd sprayed (7).
- 22 Seek support for painting school's opening (7).
- 24 Extra height on flag of European nation (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.663



- 25 Logical reason to restrict supply of drink (9).
- 27 Girl's limited dowry (3).
- 28 Adjustable spanner giving capital service (5.6).

- 1 Urge start of hobby, perhaps (3). 2 Man on board hauling in river crustacean (5).
- 3 Resentment, being grounded right away after prang (7).
- 4 Flooded at home, and not taken 5 Henry, holding court, set up
- control on admission (5). 6 Tommy's ordered to cover pla-
- toon at first sign of trouble (7). Petitioner in EC involved with BSE here (9).
- 8 Produces sound evidence of frietion in cricket (11). 11 Remembers to engage the
- babysitter? (5,2,4). He takes pains to provide satisfaction (9).
- It it warms other motorists of turnings ahead (9).
- 18 Hit out in temper after 'e produces rude name, perhaps (7). 19 Many travelling round found this
- 21 Poor horse having to be driven to work? (5).

line on map (7).

23 A minor present (5). 26 Entertainment primarily followed by the older viewer (3).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

AA INFORMATION

inside MQ5 M25 and Link Roads National Motorways Continental Europe Channel crossing 0336 401 746 0336 401 747 0336 401 748 0336 401 910 0336 401 368

Notoring to Heath I Gazorick airports 0336 407 505 The Met. Office **Neather by Fax**

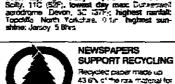
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N Exer 416 2.39 Scotland 416 2.40

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AA Car reports by tax

HIGHEST & LOWEST Highest day temp. St Man's laces of (525); towest day mad Distrement Devon, 30 (375); highest ramfalls larth Yorkshae, 0 far highest sun-





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ĸĹM. ÁAirlK

General: England and Wales will have a bitterly cold and windy day. Snow showers will affect eastern areas and parts of the west of England, and some persistent snow spread from the south across England and south and east Wales during the day. Sheltered western districts will be mainly dry. Scotland and Northern ireland will also be cold and windy, with some bright or sunny intervals in the northwest, but else-

where it will be cloudy with some light snow in the east and over hills. □ London, SE & Central S England: raw and wintry. Patchy snow, mainly dying out by evening Wind E, strong. Max 2C (36F).

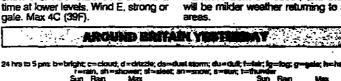
☐ E Angile, E&W Midfends, E&Cent N England: cloudy. Sleet or snow showers. Wind E, fresh or

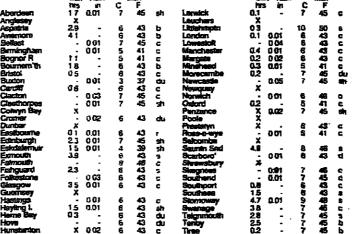
strong. Max 3C (37F). ☐ Channel Isles, SW England: cloudy and windy. Rain or sleet, with snow over hills and moors and for a time at lower levels. Wind E, strong or

S & N Wales, NW England, Lake District, late of Man, SW Sections: windy, rather cloudy, mostly dry. Light upland winty showers. Wind E, fresh or strong. Max 5C (41F).

☐ NE England, Berders, Edin-burgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands: cloudy and windy with scattered light rain or sleet showers. Some inland snow. Wind E, fresh. Max ☐ Glasgow, Moray Firth, NE & NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: mixed cloudy and bright spells. Wind E or SE, tresh, locally strong. Max 7C

☐ Republic of Ireland: mostly dry, some wintry showers. Wind E, fresh or strong, locally gale. Max 7C (45F). ☐ Outlook areas of snow and rain will move from the south, and there will be milder weather returning to all





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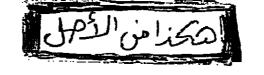
Changes to the chart below from noon: high S will move SE and decline; low L will move E and fill, as Low N moves NE and deepens. Low M will drift E and slowly fill



PM 14 49 14.15 20.24 PM 1533 1203 2234 1248 1923 18.14 18.51 17.42 20.01 12.06 10 07 00:38 07:00 05:51 06:21 05:21 07:31 20.10 19.00 12.7 5.6 Cardin Bayonport Dover Dublin (N Well) Felmouth Greenack Herwich Herwich Holyfred Hall (Albert D) Risscombe 12.27 18.31 13.21 12.41 23.30 19.21 19.09 19.27 11.55 11.34 07:05 04.14 00.16 6.5 4.9 10.1 5.8 4.4 23.55 19.25 18.38 12.32

London 3.52 pm to 8.01 am Bdatol 4.02 pm to 8.11 am Schrough 3.38 pm to 8.40 am temperar 3.50 pm to 8.20 -

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY DECEMBER 16 1997

Ex-Amber Day chief steps into Sears's shoes

PHILIP GREEN, the former chief executive of Amber Day, yesterday bought the 185-strong Shoe Express retail chain from Sears and is in

In total, Sears's withdrawal from

which it one dominated though the British Shoe Corporation (BSC) and brands such as Saxone, Dolcis and Freeman Hardy Willis - will have

considering taking the Department of Trade and Industry to judicial

The Shoe Express sale was masterminded by David James, the company doctor brought in to sort out BSC when Sears dismissed Liam Strong, its chief executive, this year. Mr James attempted to sell BSC in one piece, but the bids were too low, and has since sold the instore concessions to Nine West of the US for £9 million and Dolcis to a group led by Alexon for £1.6 million. Mr James said the Shoe Express

out-of-town operation, Shoe City, and Cable & Co, the upmarket operation that has 40 outlets.

Mr Green is in negotiations about Shoe City, which is expected to be sold early next year, and Cable has yet to be put on the market.

The deal for Shoe City may lead to the stores being operated by Sports Division, the leisure retailer backed by Mr Green and which bought Sears's Olympus sports operation in November 1995. Under the terms of the Shoe Express deal Mr Green

Shoe Express stores, which are due to be closed at the end of January. Mr Green was concerned that Sears might launch a fire sale of Shoe Express stock and so undercut

Mr Green operates a 105-strong shoe chain under the brand name Mark One and owns the Owen Owen department stores. "I intend to convert 75 shops immediately to the Mark One concept and we then want to see if the rest are viable as a small, stand-alone, chain," he said.

long leaseholds of Shoe Express shops. Mr James said he expected to sell them for at least their net book value of £18.7 million. The deal would recoup as much as £18 million more to Sears as closing the business down and preserve hundred of jobs, he added.

Sears shares, which stood at 95p earlier this year, rose 2½p to 49½p

> Commentary, page 27 Diary, page 29

Bass sells bingo clubs

£279m By Adam Jones

for

THE shake-up of the UK bingo industry continued yesterday as Bass sold its Gala bingo chain to a management buy-in team for £279 million in

Led by John Kelly, the former head of Mecca's bingo division, the management team is backed by PPM Ventures, the venture capital arm of the Prudential.

Mr Kelly, currently chief executive of Cascade Clubs, will become chief executive of Gala. Nat Solomon, the former chairman of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and current chairman of Crown Leisure, will become nonexecutive chairman.

The deal follows the sale of Vardon's bingo clubs to Hambro European Ventures for £30.5 million last month, and speculation that First Leisure is considering a disposal. Gala's £279 million price

includes £43 million to cover cash balances. Bass had to write down the value of Gala's 130 clubs, which include a Gothic-style hall at Woolwich, southeast London, by £177 million last month, as fullyear profits slumped 22.6 per cent to £24 million. The book value of net assets and cash was £232 million. Bass said it would make a £12 million profit on the sale.

Profits across the industry have been depressed as competition from the National Lotiery ate away at bingo's traditional customer base. However, venture capitalists say it is recovering, encouraged by government deregulation of advertising and new sites on the edge of towns, attracting younger players. Bass said the net proceeds of the deal would go to reduce debt.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET PUDICES FTSE 100 _____ 5121.8 (+75.6) . 15909.39 (+5.09) US RATE

STERLING

Tokyo cłose Yen 131.43 NURTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb) \$17.50 (\$17.50) COLD: ondon close \$286.05 (\$282.65)

BA battle with Laker continues

By Jon Ashworth

BRITISH AIRWAYS is squaring up for a renewed courtroom clash with Sir Freddie Laker, pioneer of cut-price transatlantic travel, after a Florida court overturned a

ruling dismissing the action. Laker Airlines, which is based in Florida, launched an action against BA in June, alleging that it had used its dominant position to prevent Laker from obtaining desirable take-off and landing slots at Gatwick. Laker alleges that landing slots for its London-to-Miami service were too late to make connecting flights to Central and South America and the Caribbean, depriving it of potential business.

After a submission by BA, the US District Court in Fort Lauderdale last month moved to dismiss the action, but Laker's successful appeal has cleared the way for the case to proceed.

The two airlines are expect-

ed to submit written memoranda next month. BA had no

cost it more than £260 million. Sears is still attempting to sell its negotiations to buy its Shoe City operation. The sale to Mr Green's Freemans home shopping business. The £365 million purchase by Littlewoods was blocked by Marga-ret Beckett, President of the Board of Alnery group — which fought off competition from Olivers and Stead & Simpson to buy the operation for £8.3 million — will crystalise a £65 Trade, and Sears is now looking for another buyer. Sears had said it was million loss for Sears.

the British shoe retailing business - review, but is now believed to have Japan unveils £47bn deal as gloom returns

By Janet Bush, economics editor

JAPAN yesterday unveiled a Vice Trade Minister, said Ja-Y10 trillion package (£47 bil-lion) to stabilise its beleaguered financial system on the day that a survey of business confidence raised fears that the country may be heading back into recession. An International Monetary

landing for UK

Fund official said the fund would be revising its growth forecast for Japan in its World Economic Outlook to be published this week. Meanwhile, Ignazio Visco, chief economist of the Organisation for Eco-nomic Co-operation and Development said its forecast of 1.7 per cent growth for Japan in 1998, published yesterday, may have to be revised even lower because of deteriorating conditions in Asia. Six months ago, the OECD was forecast-

ing 2.9 per cent growth. Osamu Watanabe, Japan's

THE British economy is head-ing for a soft landing next year, with growth falling to a more sustainable pace and inflation

settling near target, according

to the latest forecast by the

Organisation for Economic Co-

The OECD said that its fore-

tasts assume that base rates

will not be raised again.

Growth is expected to be 22 per cent in 1998 down from 3.4

per cent this year. Job creation is thought likely to continue un-

til early next year, implying a further small fall in unemploy-

ment. However, the OECD ap-

pears sanguine that any wage

operation and Development.

3.7

age to stimulate the economy. pan now faced a severe situa-Although Japanese stocks tion. He was speaking after traded in London were lifted the Bank of Japan released its by the news, the sense of crisis latest tankan survey showing in Asia hardly lifted. Mr Visco that business confidence had said any forecasts for South deteriorated sharply since Korea could be regarded as no September and that companmore than educated guesses, but he suggested that the ies expected a worsening of the OECD's newest member may climate in the months ahead. A panel of Japan's ruling see no growth at all in 1998.

Liberal Democratic Party yes-South Korean markets enterday called on the Governjoyed a rare respite yesterday, the stock market rising more ment to issue Y10 trillion of bonds to the Deposit Insurthan 7 per cent and the won ance Corp. a package debouncing from last week's daily all-time lows. This imsigned to strengthen the capital of troubled financial proved performance appeared institutions. The panel also to stem from hopes of an said that public money will be international financial bailused to buy preferred stock and subordinated bonds to be out or, at least, quicker disbursements from the IMF-led issued by financial firms. \$57 billion dollar rescue.

These recommendations are However, IMF officials, who likely to be approved today by met yesterday to discuss the emergency in Asia, ruled out **OECD** predicts soft

pressures as the labour mark-et tightens would be contain-

ed by a fall in import prices,

courtesy of the strong pound. The forecast said that the

slowdown in growth should be gradual despite high inter-est rates, the tightening of fise-al policy and the unwinding

of windfall effects, because

confidence is high.

The risks to this optimistic

scenario are that consumer spending does not slow down

as expected and the Monetary

Policy Committee is forced to

take strong action against overheating causing a signifi-

cant slowdown in growth.

speeding up payments or in-creasing the size of the rescue. According to television re-ports in Seoul, the South Kor-ean authorities are intending to float the won today. Until now, it has imposed a 10 per cent daily trading band on the currency, which meant last week that the currency markets were open for a few minutes only because the won fell to its limit almost immediately.

The yen came under intense pressure after publication of the tankan survey, falling near to a new 512-year low against the dollar of Y131.50.

Sterling fell, hitting a sevenweek low against the dollar and a one-month low against the mark. Traders cited the OECD's forecast of a significant slowdown in growth.



The gothic-style Gala bingo hall at Woolwich is among the clubs to be sold by Bass

FTC tells Diageo to sell brands | Robinson brokers coal deal

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

ropolitan yesterday cleared the final obstacle to their merger after seven months when the US Federal Trade Commission signalled its approval of the £24 billion deal on condition that the drinks group sells its Dewar's whisky and Bombay

Shares in the merged com-

GUINNESS and Grand Met- pany, which will now be renamed Diageo, are expected to start trading on the stock market tomorrow after final legal approval yesterday in the UK High Court. The FTC said the sale of the global rights to the two brands was the largest

it had ordered but was needed to protect US consumers.

companies said they regretted the need to sell brands but were pleased the deal could go ahead. Diageo has six months to dispose of the brands. Credit Suisse First Boston will handle the sales.

Analysts said there were few surprises in the FTC agreement, with Dewar's regarded In a joint statement, the two as the obvious choice for disposal after the EU competition ruling that it must sell the brand in Europe.

The two brands could fetch up to £800 million. Dewar's is valued at up to £700 million, selling about 2.7 million cases worldwide a year.Bombay Gin sells about 600,000 cases. The rapidly growing brand could fetch up to £100 million.

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday struck an eleventh-hour deal with the electricity generators and RJB Mining to shore up the coal industry until the end of June. The agreement was brokered by

Geoffrey Robinson, Paymas-

Under the arrangement, PowerGen - which had not

ter General.

bought any RJB coal - is to buy 1.1 million tonnes and

National Power and The Energy Group will bring for-ward deliveries of coal in contracts they had already arranged. RJB can now maintain current production.

Contracts between RJB and the generators expire at the end of March. As it had not

negotiated sufficient deals for coal beyond that period it

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

faced a huge over-production problem. National Power is to bring forward 350,000 tonnes of the coal it had already ordered after March while The Energy Group will bring forward 250,000 tonnes.

Smaller producers are now likely to press for the same

you no less than tive years' peace of mind in an increasingly uncertain or rid. The detailst ■ 0.55% (6.8% APR) fixed to 5.00 ± 0.4 Available for purchases and some riggers up to 75% of property value (0.95% (7.5% APR) for loans to 90% of property value) ■ Procedure to select your

own half lings and contents Insurance - Extremely targetrable redemption penalties; Fig. of the

redundancy terms for mineworkers until the end of June. Generous redundancy packages inherited from Brit-ish Coal had been due to expire at the end of March but unions had pressed for an

Robinson faces heat, page 26

You know a good quote when vou see it.

And you're looking at it now: a fixed rate of just 6.55% into 2002. (6.8%APR)

John Charcol, December 1997.

1,000 Warmet, only interligence can a property valued at \$20,000, regald. Only 25 years. 95 guess without its page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.55% (0.000/0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.000 for 0.000 for the page regald of \$27.50 at 0.000 for 0.000

Robinson faces the heat from coal producers

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

PRESSURE is mounting on the Government over its handling of the crisis in the coal industry. Geoffrey Robinson, Paymaster General, yesterday faced growing unrest from the industry as he tried to broker deals with the three coal-burning generators to shore up supply arrangements with RJB Mining.

Mr Robinson will tonight hear a

demand from two of the smaller coal producers that there should be no sweetheart deals with RJB that would disadvantage rivals. Talks will take place with Midlands Mining and Scotland Mining, which sought clarification from the Prime Minister over his statement to the House of Commons last week that arrangements had been agreed between RIB Mining, National Power. PowerGen and The Energy Group to secure supplies beyond the March 31

expiry of current contracts until the end of June.

With the Government having activated a short-term plan to save the coal industry, which faced the threat of closure of up to eight pits and loss of 5,000 jobs, it is now facing increasing criticism that it is saving RJB at the cost of other producers.

Celtic Energy, the biggest Welsh mining company, is also likely to demand a level playing field. It has suggested that the output of Welsh

collieries could double to six million tonnes and will be keen that any market for extra coal that the Government may squeeze out of the generators will not all go to RJB.

Separately, Standard & Poor's, the credit rating agency, gave warning that the Government's "crisis management" action on coal may lead to less competition in electricity generation. It said that the government inquiry into the electricity trading market, announced in October, was

motivated by a concern that competition in generation sustains downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices. But it said the moratorium on new gas-fired sta-tions was likely to impede generation competition and lower prices because coal-fired stations dominate the price-setting area of the market.

Confusion has also surrounded the deals between RJB and the genera-tors, with conflicting reports about what has been agreed and by whom.

Acer plant to create 1,000 jobs in

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

Wales

MORE than 1,000 jobs are to be created in Wales with the opening of a £25 million plant by Acer, the Taiwanese computer business..

The company will produce computer monitors and perinherals at the factory in Wentloog, near Cardiff. The move is an important boost for inward investment after the recent decision by Toyota to choose France rather than the UK for new production. It will also ease concern that the troubles in Far Eastern markets will curb development in

Europe by Asian companies. Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, said: "This is tremen-dous news for Wales and for Britain, with another major overseas manufacturer choosing to invest here. We will see 1,000 direct new jobs created in a project which will link with a number of our existing inward investors in the electronics sector."

Wales has been at the centre of rows about regions luring inward investment from other areas. But Mr Davies denied that the Acer project had been "poached" from elsewhere in Britain. "We have worked as a cohesive team to secure this project. Our professional approach - which has respected the arrangements agreed with all other government departments — and the good com-mercial reasons for Acer choosing Wales, are factors that secured the project."

Acer will get grants from the regional selective assistance scheme on a gradual basis, increasing with the number of people employed in the factory. The plant will be built by the Welsh Development Agenfor lease to Acer while the land, road access and environmental work will be provided

by Cardiff County Council. Graham Jackson, Acer UK's managing director, said: This announcement reflects the tremendous growth we have shown over the past 12 months. As we continue to grow, the intention is to open more manufacturing plants in the UK to cope with the increased European demand for our PC, notebook and

server products." Production at the site will begin next year with full production expected to be reached within five years.

biggest problems in eye surgery.

David Chiswell, chief executive, said CAT will license in further therapeutic "targets"

elopment resources. CAT's R&D spending will

Westminster Health sells homes to rival

WESTMINSTER HEALTH CARE HOLDINGS, the private nursing home group, is selling 12 care homes in the UK to Tamaris, a smaller rival, with a price tag of a little more than £20 million. The deal, which involves the transfer of 698 beds. includes seven homes in England and five in Northern Ireland. Proceeds from the deal will be ploughed into other healthcare markets, Westminster said, while Tamaris emphasised that the move would strengthen its position in the long-term care market. The deal, which is subject to the approval of Tamaris shareholders, will be structured as a mix of £15.5 million in cash and the rest in shares.

Westminster also announced it has teamed up with Holiday Retirement Corporation, the US retirement bome firm, to form a healthcare financing division. The company will be called Atlantic Healthcare Finance and is intended to tap into the growing sale and leaseback market for healthcare properties.

Wedgwood leads world

WATERFORD WEDGWOOD has secured its position as the world's largest ceramics and crystal manufacturer after gaining control of more than 50 per cent of Rosenthal, of Germany. The enlarged group will have sales in excess of IrE50 million (£470 million), boasting a leading position in markets in America, Japan, the UK, Ireland and continental Europe. The company expects to incur a Ir £27 million charge against the restructuring of the loss-making German group.

BICC's double delight

BICC COMMUNICATIONS, a subsidiary of BICC Group, the UK cables and construction conglomerate, has won two contracts worth more than £100 million over the next three years. BICC Communications, which was formed last May, will work with Cable & Wireless Communications to supply optical and metallic cable solutions for nationwide telecommunications and cable television networks. The other contract is to supply cable to ESAT Telecom in the Republic of Ireland.

Healthcall approached

SHARES of Healthcall Group rose 9p to 79p yesterday after the medical services company said it had received a takeover approach from its executive directors, backed by NatWest Equity Partners "at a small premium to the current share price". At yesterday's price the company is worth £44 million. It was floated on the stock market at 105p a share and reached a high of 146p early last year. In 1996, the company earned pre-tax profits of £5.35 million on turnover of £55.3 million.

Plysu edges ahead

PLYSU, the plastic products company, lifted pre-tax profits to E3.9 million, from £3.6 million, in the half year to September 30, despite the strength of sterling. Earnings rose to 5.6p a share, from 4.9p, and the interim dividend is up 10 per cent to 2.2p. David O Shaughnessy, chairman, said the full benefit of recent investment and acquisitions would be seen in the next financial year. Turnover of £71.1 million, compared with £67.1 million in the first half of the previous year.

Avocet digs up \$13.9m

AVOCET MINING, whose shares have fallen sharply this year because of weak gold prices, has realised a gain of \$13.9 million (£8.5 million) by liquidating its gold hedge. The proceeds, together with cash on deposit, have repaid \$16 million of borrowings from Macquarie Bank. The company was announcing reduced pre-tax losses of £902,000, from £2.98 million, in the half year to September 30. Losses were 2.6p a share (9.4p loss) There is again no dividend.

Aromascan holds steady

LOSSES at Aromascan, the digital aroma technology company, held steady at EL07 million before tax in the half year to October 31, against £1.09 million previously. Richard Lyman, chairman, said the company expected to be able to announce progress in the alliance with Mitsubishi Electric at the financial year end. Interim losses were 3.97p a share (4.06p loss) and there is again no dividend. Aromascan has £2.3 million of cash in the bank. The shares were unchanged at 30p yesterday.

McBride acquisition

McBRIDE, the household products company, has agreed to buy Grada, a maker of private label and minor brand household cleaning products in The Netherlands, for a maximum profit-related consideration of £11.7 million, including acquired debt. Grada's holding company registered a £240,000 pre-tax loss in 1996 but McBride said the business now trades at a profit after a recovery in the Dutch market. McBride will pay an initial £1.58 million in cash.

Coats Viyella demerging

SHARES of Coats Viyella rose 14½ p to 115p after it confirmed it would put forward proposals for the demerger of the contract clothing, fashion and branded clothing and home furnishings divisions from the engineering businesses tomorrow, when it is due to publish an update on current trading. Analysts believe the demerger could produce two stand-alone companies with a combined stock market value of around £1 billion, against yes-

UAL forecast lifts shares

Utilities face threat of millennium bug penalty

PUBLIC utilities were warned with a budget this year of just yesterday that they could be penalised for breach of licence if they fail to tackle the millennium bug problem.

The threat was made by Don Cruickshank, chairman of Action 2000, the government-funded group established to con-front the problem of computers that do not recognise the date 2000. The cost of making computers millennium-proof in the UK is estimated to be more than E31 billion, and is likely to be worsened by the introduction of the European single currency at the same time.

Mr Cruickshank, who works one day a week at Action 2000

Pain joins the board at Abbey **National**

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

ABBEY NATIONAL has promoted Mark Pain, group financial controller, to the executive post of finance director, making him the youngest employee ever to be appointed to the board. Mr Pain, 36, will take

up his new position in the new year. The boardroom reshuf-

fle, announced after lan Harley's appointment in October as chief executive designate to replace Peter Birch, also included the appointment to the board Mr Treacy is currently

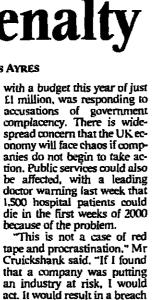
company secretary and will be joining the board on January I. with re-sponsibility for group risk management. Mr Treacy will be retaining the office of company

Mr Harley has made it clear that he would like to make a substantial acquistion in the fund management or life assurance sectors.

The bank also confirmed yesterday that Charles Toner, deputy chief executive, will head up a new wealth manage ment division.

This will include the existing Glasgow and Dunblin life assurance activities, the offshore retail businesses in the Channel Islands, Isle of Man. Gibraltar and Hong Kong, together with the oushore retail business of Cater Allen, the stockbroker.

The new division will target high net worth investors who have salaries or liquid assets of £100,000 or more, the bank said.



tape and procrastination," Mr Cruickshank said, "If I found that a company was putting an industry at risk, I would act. It would result in a breach of licence for utilities, and if there was a company which failed to appreciate the scale of the problem I would expect the rest of the industry to refuse to interconnect with it."

Mr Cruickshank emphasised that the millennium bug was mainly a business issue. and he urged companies to take early action. I see my role as being to raise the tempo. It is not an IT or a government issue. This is becoming a real business issue, and the message is: get a grip."
He said the Government

would take control of the problem in the public sector, and justifying his threat to privatised utilities, said: "Voters will want the Government to help continue the supply of water. electricity and telecoms." Action 2000 will launch a

Web site and a telephone hotline early next year, and is encouraging companies to share information on how to tackle the bug. Mr Cruickshank said smaller businesses would have to rely on large companies to help them out. Mr Cruickshank refused to

estimate the cost of the millennium bug to industry. "It's a pointless exercise. It will have dampening effect on the British economy, as bright IT people are made to solve a dull problem." He said the shortage of IT professionals would mean higher wage costs for businesses and the emergence of "cowboy" IT companies.

City Diary, page 29

NATIONWIDE, the country's

largest building society, yes-terday gave an early Christ-

mas present to homeowners

when it confirmed it was not

implementing last month's

rise in base interest rates.

However, it will raise its

savings rates in the new year.

The announcement, a week

after the Halifax moved to 8.7

per cent in line with other high

street lenders, means

Nationwide's standard vari-

This leaves its borrowers with

able rate stays at 8.1 per cent.

Mortgage rate put on

By GAVIN LUMSDEN



FOUNTAIN Forestry Holdings, which provides forestry services in Britain and America, lifted pre-tax profits 32 per cent to £955,000 for the year to

September 30. Barry Gamble, the chairman, pictured, saw earnings rise II per cent to 7.9p a share. There is a final dividend of 1.83p, making a

2.75p total. Turnover rose 16 per cent to £21.8 million. The company floated on the Alter-

Growth in pensions helps Standard Life to rise 20%

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

STANDARD LIFE, the mutual insurance company, yesterday said that it had enjoyed an exceptional year with new

slumped. In the UK, new business in-come from life and pensions policies leapt 30 per cent to £459 million. New annual premiums were up 44 per cent to £272.4 million. The company was particularly successful in personal

advantage over the banks, but

just what the gap will be depends on the competitors.

ums jumped 69 per cent to E1546 million and single premiums increased 38 per cent to £869.4 million. Business in

reflecting the company's with-drawal of with-profits bond products a few years ago.

11.7 per cent. Despite reforming its price

ing structure two years ago, so that charges are taken throughout the life of a policy not just in the first few years. Standard has not seen an of policies.

also rose from 10.6 per cent to

transfer values.

business worldwide up 20 per unit trusts and Peps rose 38 per cent to £167.4 million. cent to £3.3 billion. This is a 50 per cent advance on 1995 when Sales of managed and equithe insurance market ty investment bonds, however, fell 15 per cent to £31.4 million,

pensions where annual premi-

The company also increased its overall share of the life and pensions market from 6 per cent to 6.9 per cent. Its share of the intermediary IFA market

increase in early terminations The company scored higher than average persistency figures in a recent report from

the Personal Investment Authority showing that policyholders had not exploited high

CAT extends drug trials

hold at Nationwide a £50,000 mortgage £1,911 better off over seven years. A Nationwide spokesman said that its rate would rise only if base rates increased again. Meanwhile, Bradford & mutual society, which kept its standard variable rate steady at 7.95 per cent last month, said it expects base rates to go up again in January. We

Chiswell: R&D competition

HUMAN testing of three

more potential drugs is expect-ed to begin next year at Cambridge Antibody Technology (CAT), which raised E41 million in a flotation in March, raising to five the number of products in clinical development.

Technicione, CAT's US partner, will shortly begin recruiting patients for trials of a brain cancer product. The two companies are also planning a separate solid tumour study next year, while CAT expects to begin tests of an antibody to prevent fibrosis, one of the

By PAUL DURMAN

to ensure internal competition for limited research and dev

total £18 million (£8.3 million). in the year to September 30. With only £1.1 million (£2.1 million) of revenues, including a payment from Knoll, CAT's partner on rheumatoid arthritis treatment, the company million (£3.3 million loss).

terday's valuation of around £812 million. Tempus, page 28

UAL CORPORATION, parent of United Airlines, said yesterday that it expected its fourth-quarter income to exceed Wall Street estimates, triggering a sharp rally in its stock. Shares in UAL were up \$3.125 at \$87.25 (£52.87) in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange. UAL expects its earnings per share to exceed the consensus forecast of \$1.58. Gerald Greenwald, chairman, said that fourth-quarter and 1998 booking trends for the airline have not changed.

Cars powered by clean fuel cells on market by 2004

Ford signs 'green' deal

By Nick Nuttall environment correspondent

CARS, vans and buses powered by environmentally friendly fuel cells could be on the market in 2004. Ford said yesterday as it announced its biggest single investment in green

car technology. Ford - owner of the Lincoln and Jaguar marques - has teamed with Daimler-Benz and Ballard Power Systems of Canada - which has developed fuel cells - to announce a multibillion dollar deal to develop vehicles propelled by the

Fuel cells, which have been used on space missions, turn carbon-based fuels, such as methane hydro-was not at odds with its concerns

gen or methanol, into electricity and heat, with water as the by-product. During the climate conference last week in Kyoto, Japan, where industrial nations signed up to legally binding reductions in emissions in an attempt to contain the threat of global warming, Ford along with other vehicle makers and oil companies - tried to scupper the

would be economically damaging. But yesterday a spokesman for the company said that backing was not at odds with its concerns

agreement, claiming that the sci-

ence was unproven and that the deal

over the climate deal. "We are quite serious about this. The internal combustion engine has proven difficult to replace. But we believe fuel cells could be the answer. We believe a commercially viable fuel cell vehicle could be on the road by 2004," he said. The three-way memorandum of

understanding, signed in Stuttgart, Germany, involves Ford investing a total of \$420 million (£250 million). The investment includes the purchase of shares in Ballard and a stake in DBB Fuel Cell Engines, and the setting up of a new company

Study to recommend same ownership quotas as TV

Radio rules 'need retuning'

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

A NEW study now being finalised will conclude that commercial radio groups must be able to become considerably larger if current growth in the sector is to be sustained. Nera (National Economic Research Associates) the consultancy group specialising in communications issues, was commissioned this year by the Commercial Radio Companies Association, the industry trade body, to

future of radio. The Nera study is expected to argue that the same ownership rules applied to commercial tele-

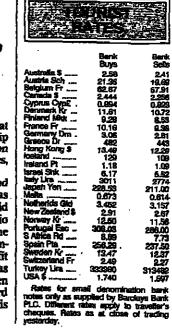
carry out an investigation on the

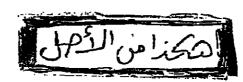
vision should apply to radio - something that would allow commercial radio groups to almost double in size. The television rules allow ITV companies to own li-cences up to 15 per cent of total viewing including the BBC, al-though there are additional constraints on advertising sales.

Radio ownership is judged on a points system, with points awarded on the number and size of radio licences held. No one group can own more than 15 per cent of points in the system. The key difference with television is that in radio the BBC is excluded from the reckon-

ing. NERA will recommend that the limits on radio ownership should, like television, be based on 15 per cent of listening figures, including BBC figures. It is also expected to recommend

that over the next four years, as digital radio develops, there should be a review of the number of radio frequencies held by the BBC. In the past year, commercial radio companies have increased their profit levels and interest and publicity has surrounded the "merger" between the media interest of Richard Branson, of Virgin, and Chris Evans's Ginger Productions.





James as company doctor to sort out its shoe business it knew what it was getting into. James is famed for a

scorched earth policy in which he will spend 99p to release £1 of value. His decision to close down British Shoe Corporation, which at one point sold one shoe in four

in the UK, was difficult for Sears'

existing management to take, having invested so much time and energy in the business. James could be guaranteed to

take the tough decision. And if it

was wrong, at least he had a much better chance of getting it right than a Sears insider.

This latest deal has a strange familiarity about it. The pur-

chaser of the Shoe Express chain

is Philip Green, who investors

will remember with little affec-

tion from his days running

Amber Day (now known as WEW Group). Two years and 20

days previously, Green was behind another purchase from Sears, that of the Olympus sports

goods chain. Sears said it re-

ceived £53 million for that busi-

ness and had to make write-offs of £65 million. Even that figure

incuded the repayment of inter-company debt and the transfer of a brand new retail computer system that the purchasers. Sports Division, reckon was

worth most of the acquisiton

By exiting from that sector.

Sears managed to miss out on

the boom in sports leisure goods

Drice in itself.

POUNDLY

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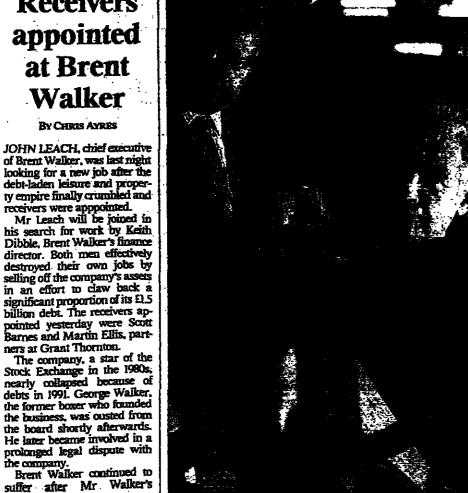
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Since then, Mr Leach has

made a series of disposals. Last year Brent Walker sold Pubmaster, the pub chain, to a syndicate of venture capitalists led by NatWest Ventures for £171 million. The company's disposal programme was completed two weeks ago when it



Executives John Stallwood, left, and Andrew Bruce

Channel pegs payout

electronic systems and security products company, is holding the interim dividend at 0.55p a share despite lifting pre-tax profit to £1.8 million (£1.4 million) in the half year to October 31. The company said it had

down in orders from the Ministry of Defence, which affected the electronic systems division. Channel recently signed a multimillion pound longterm collaboration agreement with Thomson Thorn Missile Electronics. Interim earnings

Always a step away from risk



هڪدامن رالامل

The valuation is expected to reach £400 million, of which half So where now for Sears? It is could be attributed to the Olymstill trying to sell Freemans after pus chain, which Sears was so Margaret Beckett spoilt its plans to flog it to Littlewoods. It still That disposal spree, of course, included the decision to sell Freeneeds to sell Shoe City and Cable, though those deals cannot be too far off. This will leave a rump that is largely Selfridges. Of course, given the recent perfor-mance of Harvey Nichols, there man Hardy Willis and Saxone to Stephen Hinchliffe and his Facia empire. Those sales, of course, came back to haunt Sears when Facia collapsed a few months later. David James, showing that he is one of the few businessmen is a question mark about how valuable a fashion department store actually is. It never rains who actually learns something from history, is keen not to repeat the errors of the Facia deals.

Accordingly this sale to Philip Green takes full account of any potential problems that might

Japan wraps a new suspect package

Japan's Prime Minister seems at last to have got the message. Ryutaro Hashimoto has let it be known that he has another expansion package up his sleeve. He has, it seems, agreed to set up a £50 billion fund to back bank deposits, and to buy stock issues made by banks whose capital has been

washed away by the ebb tide of asset prices. As with all Japan's expansion or rescue packages over the past eight years, it is best not to get carried away by the potential figures. Whatever happened, for instance, to the huge property buy-in that was going to resolve matters once and for all?

The OECD, along with the IMF, whose combined initiatives

have done so much to wreck the

Asian economies, clearly has little to offer. Within six months, it has had to cut its estimate of Japanese recovery this year from 2.3 to 0.8 per cent. For next year, forecasts of growth from the OECD's economists have already come down from 2.9 to 1.7 per cent. They will have to fall even further if Korea's crisis still festers after Thursday's election. As a long-term cure, the OECD keeps on prescribing the conventional Western solutions that were, for instance, in part responsible for the asset price bubble that has burst in the face of Japanese consumers. For the short-term, much incoherent throat clearing and mumbling

can be heard emanating form the OECD's Paris headquarters.

Monetary easing would be great but there's not much point when interest rates are near zero. So it has to be fiscal expansion. But was it not conventional interest national wisdom to nag Japan to be more fiscally responsible, cut spending and the budget deficit to prepare for that all-purpose macroeconomic bugbear; an aging population? Indeed it was.

Now the OECD must hedge

against reality. "Nevertheless" it argues, no doubt with a straight corporate face, "in the short-run, greater consideration should be given to possible ways to ease the fiscal stance without losing sight of medium-term objectives". erting to the standard script, it then suggests a tax cut.

Lo and behold, Mr Hashimoto

is expected to announce one today, though not big enough or

T J HUGHES, the discount

department store operator, yesterday said that its dev-

elopment programme is ac-

ings (Chris Ayres writes).

TJ Hughes said a con-tract had been signed for a

new 40,000 sq ft store in Blackburn, Lancashire,

which is expected to open in

April 1998. It is also opening

a store next year in Shrews-

bury, and plans to open

another in Burnley in

autom 1999. When all

projects are completed, TJ

Hughes will have 555,000 sq

ft of selling space in 21

were £60 million.

credible enough. "If it's hurting, it's working" John Major used to say. The refrain of pain and deflation will not, however solve the problems of Korea, let alone Japan, where lack of demand has led to a loss of confidence. Resort to the printing press, with its in-built threat of future inflation, is more likely to get Tokyo's shoppers out on the streets to spend.

Beauty of bimbos may be skin deep

nce a company's management loses the confidence of institutional investors, it is hard to regain. That means the share rating is likely to lag behind recovery, prolonging the embarrassment of fund man-agers. The solution is for some outsider to see value in the company and its executives and mount a takeover with their help.

In the argot of venture capital, these are "bimbos", or buy-in management buyouts. Yesterday, two more were launched. Wellman, the engineering group, promised a brighter future before only to disappoint. Now Jon Moulton's Alchemy group is backing management to make it happen second time round. Cash flows to big shareholders such as M&G and Mercury. Healthcall, which supplies duty doctors, was a promising new issue, then had a temporary serback that put the cautious off for years. Venture capital, in cahoots with management, is offering cash to the likes ment, is offering cash to the likes

of Jupiter and PDFM. At this time of year, such deals allow fund managers to contemplate the festive redundancy season with better performance figures. Managers and venturers get geared growth, if they have got it right. Everyone wins. Or do they? When outsiders

help managers to buy out a conglomerate's unwanted subsidiary, group bosses should handle any conflict of interest. This is harder when managers of a quoted company back a cash offer. And are these really the sort of companies that institutional investors should cash in at this stage of the cycle?

Television star

THE news that Roger Luard is in demand — apparently as a poten-tial chief executive of the Carlton/Granada venture, Brit-ish Digital Broadcasting — comes as some surprise. The Flextech chief executive is supposed to be "well regarded" in the TV world. But his company has made a profit in only one of the last five years and is valued at ten times its turnover. This is ominously like the sort of financial performance many fear BDB might deliver.

MFI cuts jobs despite an increase in profits

that has gripped the country — after spending large amounts of

time, money and energy develop-

ing the perfect business for that

boom. Sports Division is now

returning to the stock market, its

flotation timed for next spring.

potential problems that might arise from assigning leases to

Alnery, Green's company. Land-

lords by nature are risk averse,

and with the best will in the world,

Alnery is not as good a covenant

as Sears. James has made sure the

deal takes account of any induce-ments needed to persuade refuc-

tant landlords of the wisdom of

keen to sell.

By CARL MORTISHED

MFI is on a drive to halt a rise in fixed costs that is holding to £35.4 million.

back a profits recovery.

Britain's largest furniture retailer has laid off 100 staff at 14 branches as it consolidates its home-delivery service at distribution centres. More redundancies are expected but John Randall, chief executive, poured cold water on reports of 1,000 lay-offs, pointing to growth in the retail chain: "We could end up with more staff in a year's time than we have now."

Shares in MFI rose 4p to 125p as the company reported an 8 per cent rise in sales in the 28 weeks to November 8 with sales per square foot up 6.8 per cent. MFI's gross margin rose almost two points to 55 per an investment of £25 million

Receivers

appointed

By CHRIS AYRES

ners at Grant Thornton.

the former boxer who founded

the business, was ousted from

departure and became em-

broiled in a further legal dis-

pute with Grand Metropolitan

over the acquisition of its

William Hill betting chain.

the half year was up 8 per cent

However, MFI is having trouble converting the sales and gross margin gain into better net margins and bottom-line profits. Mr Randall said that the current structure of the business meant that growth in sales led to higher costs. "There is an element of inefficiency," he said.

In the half year, staff costs rose almost 10 per cent to £99.2 million as the company added 20 temporary distribution centres to accommodate the company's strategy of converting the core of the business to home delivery... MFI already has four dedi-

cated distribution centres and cent and the pre-tox profit for over the next-18 months will

lead to 12 such facilities and the disappearance of stores and warehouses at MFI's 185 retail outlets.

Mr Randail said: "The objective is to expand our net margin. Last year it was 9 per cent. We want to see it well into double figures." MFI's operating profit as a percentage of sales in the first 28 weeks of the financial year slipped below 8 per cent because of a surge in staff costs and a rise in the depreci-

MFI's French operations showed a small increase in sales but the strength of the pound means that revenues on translation fell II per cent with a loss for the period of £2.7 million. Mr Randall said that

Hygerra was the number two

kitchen brand in France. "Our main problem is that we do not have enough stores," he

MFI expects to convert all of its old stores to the new Homeworks format during the next 18 months with 123 stores out of the 185 total already refitted. The UK retail operations sublet a further 150,000 sq ft of redundant space, leaving 190,000 sq ft still requiring a tenant.

MFI's borrowings were £47.8 million at the end of the period with capital expenditure expected to be £80 million for the full year. Earnings per share were 4.24p and the interim dividend is up 6 per cent to 1.8p.

Elan enters

agreed bid

for Sano

By MARTIN BARROW

delivery systems.

development.

Tempus, page 28

Domecq top pay TJ Hughes to open up, profits down new stores

TONY HALES, the chief executive of Allied Domecq, enjoyed a 34 per cent increase in his total pay package to E594,000 last year, when the celerating and revealed plans for three store opendrinks group suffered a fall in The company has seen its its operating profits.

Mr Hales received a perforshare price rise 524p to 1214p this year on the back of its ambitious expansion programme. Sales last year

mance-related bonus on £154,000, up from £42,000 the previous year. The total performance-related payout for the board rose from £187,000 to £590,000.

During the year Mr Hales was also awarded 93,448 share options at an exercise price of 427.5p each. Yesterday Allied Domecq shares closed at 535p, up 9.5p, valuing these options at £100,000.

In the year to August 31 the group's operating profits slipped from £729 million to E715 million, largely due to disposals. However, pre-tax profits jumped from £264 mil-



Hales: performance rise

lion to £602 million, largely due to the absence of losses made on disposals.

In its annual report Allied Domecq says that performance-related payments are made on the basis of targets for profits before tax, cash management and certain key management objectives.

Christie's formally enters talks

CHRISTIE'S International has formally entered negotiations with SBC Warburg Dillon Read in connection with a possible bid, valuing the fine art auctioneer at about £500 million, or 300p a share (Jon Ashworth writes). SBC Warburg confirmed that it had made a preliminary offer on behalf of a consortium of private investors.

Reports that the banking house is looking to buy Chris-tie's outright are understood to be incorrect. An offer would only be made subject to the satisfactory completion of due dili-gence and with the recommendation of the Christie's board.

Directors of Christie's agreed to proceed with negotiations at a meeting on Sunday night. Merrill Lynch International

was yesterday appointed joint corporate stock broker with SBC Warburg. Christie's shares fell 12p to 288p. Commentary, this page

at Brent Walker JOHN LEACH, chief executive of Brent Walker, was last night looking for a new job after the debt-laden leisure and proper-ty empire finally crumbled and receivers were approinted. Mr Leach will be joined in his search for work by Keith Dibble, Brent Walker's finance director. Both men effectively destroyed their own jobs by selling off the company's assets in an effort to claw back a significant proportion of its £1.5 billion debt. The receivers appointed yesterday were Scott Barnes and Martin Ellis, part-The company, a star of the Stock Exchange in the 1980s, nearly collapsed because of debts in 1991. George Walker,

CHANNEL HOLDINGS, the

on carnings in 1998. In the first nine months of the current year, Elan, whose shares are listed in London, Dublin and New York, has earned net income of \$123.4 million on revenues of \$279.8 million. In the last full year net income was \$87.2 million. The company is capitalised at around \$5.37 billion.

Merr of America ELAN CORPORATION, the drug delivery and biopharmaceutical company based in the Republic of Ireland, has launched an agreed bid for America's Sano Corporation. valuing the company at \$375 Palm Pilot million, it was announced yesterday. Sano develops proprietary and generic products through the use of the company's own The company, based in Florida, received Food and Drug Administration approval for one generic transfermal product earlier this year and has a portfolio and generic products at various stages of Sano's shares trade on America's Nasdaq market, where its capitalisation has risen above \$248 million at the end of September from \$142.6 million at the end of 1996. The company incurred losses of \$1 million in 1996 and lost \$12.7 million in the first nine months of the current year. Elan is offering \$35.50 in shares for each Sano share. Elan said the transaction would have a neutral impact Hercules also criticised the £244 million

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XMAS-UK 04



sold William Hill to Nomura were 1.3p a share (lp). made progress despite a slowfor £700 million. Allied Colloids attacked over costs

By PAUL DURMAN

HERCULES, the American chemicals company bidding £1.1 billion for Allied Colloids, has criticised its target for the time it has taken the Bradford company to get to grips with its costs.
Allied Colloids' defence is based on

persuading shareholders that they have yet to see the full benefit of cost-cutting and production efficiency improvements adopted since David Farrar took over as.

However, Hercules yesterday pointed produced very poor returns on capital. chief executive in July 1995.

out that it is now more than three-and-ahalf years since Mr Farrar was named as chief executive designate, yet profit margins have declined over the period. Vincent Corbo, president and chief operating officer of Hercules, said: "The speciality chemicals industry has been at that [improving costs and processes] for some time. But it does not appear to be a strong priority for Allied Colloids." Mr Parrar has been on the board of

Colloids since 1990 and previously ran the

US business which, Mr Corbo said, had

Colloids spent on the US acquisition of CPS last year. It said the price included £222 million of good will, which will have to be written off against profits under new accounting rules. It said the deal would dilute earnings and expressed concern about the age of the CPS facilities. Hercules said Colloids had consistently

disappointed with its earnings. Colloids responded that the group had an outstanding record of organic growth and management was already achieving operaring margin improvements.



Shares pick up pace on hopes of seasonal rally

into the spirit of Christmas, ignoring the turbulent events in the Far East

Brokers say share prices could still enjoy the traditional pre-Christmas rally, with some of them setting a target price of between 5.200 and 5.300. The equity market appeared to grow in confidence as the day wore on, with prices being squeezed higher in thin conditions as the cash market narrowed the gap on a strong

The FTSE 100 index closed at its best of the day with a jump of 76.6 at 5.121.8 on total turnover of fewer than 600

There was the usual flurry of speculative buying among the banks. Northern Rock rose 14p to 564p with the speculators convinced it will soon be on the receiving end of a bid from Lloyds TSB, up 28p at 765p. Barclays Bank jumped 79p to £17.15 and NatWest Bank put on 2112p at 999p on persistent talk the pair may end up merging.

Sedgwick Group saw its shares touch 171p, convinced that it would be on the receiving end of a £1 billion bid from Aon Corporation, the US insurance broker. But Sedgwick went out of its way to denounce weekend reports by saying there had been no talks with Aon. Sedgwick

closed 2p better at 150p. Christie's International came off the boil, falling 12p to 288p after City speculators expressed disappointment at the revised terms from SBC Warburg Dillon Read of 300p a share. The new terms value the fine art auctioneer at £1 billion and the board must decide whether it is going to accept them.

Grand Metropolitan firmed 3p to 585p and Guinness 2p to 586p as the US Federal Trade Commission removed the final barrier to the merger. But to comply with the FTC, the enlarged company, soon to be renamed Diageo, must dispose of the world rights to Dewars scotch and Bombay dry gin.
Blue Circle Industries en-

joyed a new lease of life as the price added 9p at 336p, with the market convinced that the proposed merger of Guinness tive for the company, with another constituent required to make up the numbers. It means that BCI may still be able to hold on to its position



The bid for Christie's International, down 12p, disappointed

as a constituent of the top 100

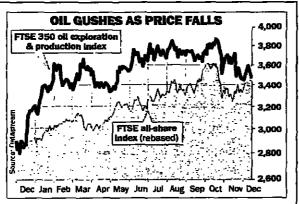
Newcomer Energis continued to lose ground, falling 5p to 270p. Not only has it failed to clinch a place as a constituent of the FTSE 250 index, but Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, claims the

shares are overvalued. Half-year figures from MFI Furniture came in at the top end of expectations and the

shares responded with a rise of 312p at 125p. John Randall. chief executive, has confirmed a major overhaul of the business is under way.

British Alrways took off with a jump of 20p to 572p

after SBC Warburg Dillon Read moved its recommendation from "add" to "buy". Word is that agreement may be close with the European Commission to allow the pro-



Just days after Merrill Lynch, the broker, cut its oil forecast for next year by \$1 to \$18, so Williams de Broë. its rival, has gone one better and reduced its forecast by \$3 to \$17 a barrel and the sector rating to "under-perform" from "outperform"

Peter Hitchens, at WdeB. says that everything looks bleak for the oil companies. Opec's increased quotas, the possibility of more traci problems in the Far East and warmer weather have undermined prospects.

for the oil price. The outlook for the second quarter looks even worse", he said. Supply is expected to

outstrip demand by around two million harrels a day. This could lead to the price dropping to \$16 a barrel during that quarter. He is a seller of the

sector, but retained weightings should include Shell, up 17p at 447p after a meeting with analysts on

prise Oil. 2p better at 589p, Hardy Oil & Gas. unchanged at 285n, and Pre-

Frankfurt Singapore: Airlines to proceed. Lack of news on the Abbott Paris: Laboratories link-up left Shield Diagnostics 712p low-Zurich: er at 740p. But brokers say the deal should be confirmed this

detecting coronary problems in the early stages through a series of blood tests. Dealings in Cordiant and Saatchi & Saatchi got under way after the split into two separate companies. Both started life at 112p, with Cordiant touching 11212p be-fore finishing 3p easier at 109p, while Saatchi & Saatchi finished 2p cheaper at 110p.

week and may be quickly followed by a full bid for the

company. Shield has devel-

oped a relatively simple pro-cess, Advanced Factor 12, for

It was the first day of dealings for Property Asset Holdings after a placing by Charles Stanley, the broker, at 6p. The shares started life at 712p before settling at 7p. a

premium of lp. The abandonment of bid talks left Widney nursing a fall of 512p at 3812p. The mechanical and electronic engineering group is now looking at various ways of

enhancing shareholder value. Wellman ended 34p firmer at 4012p on news of the agreed terms from Newmall, the newly formed investment consor-tium, which is offering 50p a share. The terms value the engineer at £73 million. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Investors

appear to be taking a cautious riew of events ahead of the crucial retail sales data expected on Thurday. Analysis say another subdued performance by consumers may be enough to prevent the sixth rate rise since May. Sentiment was also bol-

stered by the latest OECD survey showing a further slow-down in economic growth to 2.2 per cent next

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt was unchanged at £1215s in moderate turnover. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent

2021 was E18 ahead at £122332. while Treasury 7 per cent 2002 firmed three ticks to £1011316. ☐ NEW YORK: Wall Street's most closely watched indices moved in different directions fled Nasdaq technology shares to the blue chips of the Dow Jones industrial average.

Long Gilt Previous open interest 193923

Hong Kong Amsterdam: 888.78 (+1,1)4) Sydney: 40±0.04 (-22.56) London: FT 30 FTSE 100 5121.8 (+76.6) FTSE 250 . .. 4763.0 (+5.1) SEAQ Volume 599,1m ... 1,6392 (-0.0198) German Mark 2.8904 (-0.0402) 102.4 (-1.3) German man | 1024 (-1.3) Exchange Index | 1024 (-1.3) Bank of England official close (4pm) | 1.4838 ESDR ..

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MAJOR CHANGES

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Hays 8	04p (+37p)
Barclays 1	715 (+79p)
Blacks Leisure 50	1'ap (+23p)
FALLS:	
Hadfeigh 1	81p (-22¹ap)
Real Time 3	13 ¹ -0 (-14p)
Christies Int	288p (-12p)
Cantab Pharms 6	80p (-22' ₂ p)
Closing Prices Pa	ige 31

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Threadbare Coats

THE expected demerger of Coats Viyella could end up looking horribly like the Thorn EMI spit. What was billed as an opportunity to disclose hidden value could simply be a means of shuffling off a dud business in a rotten market. Revealed in its true threadbare glory, the sum of the parts may be no more than the whole.

Coats Vivella will reveal its true intentions later this week but yesterday the company confirmed plans for a demerger of contract clothing and the fashion brands. That will leave the most promising businesses, thread manufacturing and precision engineering. with the group and in theory, relieved of the depressing effect of the apparel businesses, they should prosper. While no one disputes that the engineering and thread businesses ought to sell at a solid premium to their asset value, no one has a clue how to price the

garment businesses which have an appalling profits record. Coats Viyella was slow to shift production offshore to locations in Asia: with the depreciation of Far Eastern currencies. competition from cheap imports is likely to get worse as Asian producers scramble for business. Some £450 million of turnover, mainly to Marks & Spencer, ought to have value but it could be as little as 40p in the pound. That leaves the breakup value at 130p, a fragile premium to the current price.

The temptation is for the company to ditch a business that has consistently failed to deliver but that will ill serve investors. Rivals such as Dewhirst are earning solid 7 per cent margins from the rag trade, even in this market and Coar's ought to be capable of a decent return. If the demerger offers no strategy to achieve that, it offers no future.

MFI

YOU cannot fault MFI for trying to cut costs. The company's sterling efforts to raise margins by increasing sales have been all but ruined by the steady rise in the cost-base. While the halfyear figures showed a solid 8 staffing costs rose over the same period by 10 per cent and the building programme is taking its toll. MFI's decision to convert all its stores into the new Homeworks concept is keeping the top line moving but the refits are costing the company with the depreciation charge rising by 28 per cent.

According to MFI, the high staff costs relate to transitional warehousing, set up to operate the home delivery service. Plans for shiny new distribution centres will reduce staff numbers but this leaves the impression of a disorganised expansion. planned on the hoof.

The key question is whether the new MFI stores will deliver the higher margins. Shedding slow moving products sounds good but if MFI narrows its range too far it could end up turning away casual customers who are not ready to buy a new

kitchen or redesign a bedroom. Results over the next 12 months will suffer from further expenditure on distribution and store refits but there is a nagging worry that if MFI spent a fraction of the restructuring money on re-vamping its fired product range, it would achieve the desired sales gain at less cost. There are better retailers.



Gold hedging

AVOCET MINING'S decision to liquidate its hedging position poses an interesting puzzle. Avocet had about 180,000 ounces locked in at average prices of \$385 an ounce and, given the fall in the price, it found itself with a theoretical gain of almost \$14 million which it has realised to reduce its borrowings. The huge liquidity in the gold market — banks still hold big stocks - means that it is very cheap to borrow, making it possible to sell forward for several years. Rates for gold loans are only I per cent to 2 per cent and the heavy forward hedging by goldminers has contributed to the steady

fall in the metal's price. Why then are mining companies, like Ashanti and producers in Southern Africa, still digging metal out of the ground at huge expense? Many African producers cannot mine gold profitably at \$280 per ounce, but they have

contracts at much higher prices that protect them from loss. Logically, such com-panies should shut down the mines and buy gold at the spot price of \$280 and realise an immediate gain against their hedged positions of \$350 or more.

By continuing to produce gold from the ground, the mining companies are digging their own graves. Stocks are huge and investors should stay away. It is interesting to note that Avocet is now selling forward at \$290. A bearish signal if there ever

ML Labs

ML LABORATORIES keeps telling the world it is making solid progress but its shares continue to fall, now lower than at any time for six years.

From the company's pernor: a delay in recruiting patients for a phase III trial of an Aids drug, and a temporary problem obtaining the vaccine needed for tests of its prostate cancer drug. Yes, profits have fallen sharply. but that's irrelevant because they are dependent on volatile milestone payments rather than genuine sales or royalties.

This is disingenuous. A few months ago, Panmure Gor-don, ML's broker, which had been looking for £100 million of profits by the turn of the decade, suddenly (but discretely) reduced its 1997 forecast to zero. The broker had caught wind of the delays, yet ML gave no warning to its shareholders.

This points to an anomaly. Even small delays can have a huge impact on the discounted cashflow models used by the City to value ML. Yet managements do not feel the need to disclose such a delay as they would a conventional trading problem.

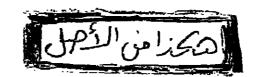
Such consideration sug-

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES **GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES** ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm) CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB) PRODUCTS (S/MT) Spot C1F NW Europe (prompt delivery) ROBUSTA COFFEE (\$) | 1820-1815 | Sep | 1790 SLR | 1791 SLR | Jan | 1795 SLR | Volume 5087 IPE FUTURES (GNI Lad) GAS OIL 160,25-61,51 Apr. 161,25-61,50 May 161,50-61,75 LIFTE BIFFEX (GN) Ltd \$10/en BRENT (6.00pm) 17.36-17.38 Apr ... 17.50-17.51 May . 17.58-17.60 MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Vol. 16,90700 2,00575 20,039 25485 24,25925 137592 LIFFE OPTIONS

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bingo hall would seem an unlikely place to find a venture capitalist. Despite efforts to put forward a more modern image and draw younger crowds -measures that have led to the investment of hundreds of millions of pounds - bingo is hardly a sexy investment, not on a par with a biotechnology start-up or an Internet

trailblazer. The venture capitalists think otherwise. Yesterday, PPM Ventures, the Prudential's venture capital arm, backed a £279 million management buy-in at Gala, the bingo arm of Bass. Last month, Hambro European Ventures bought 19 oingo clubs from Vardon for £30.5 million and venture capitalists have been tipped as possible bidders for the clubs owned by First Leisure, which have attracted disposal

Their interest comes despite falling profits in the industry. dominated by Gala and Mecca, which is owned by Rank. Bingo was hit hard by the introduction of the National Lottery and, in particular, lottery scratchcards. Operat-

Venture capitalists stake their money on a numbers game

ing profits at Gala fell from £31 million in the 1995-96 financial year. In the 1996-97 period, this had fallen to £24

Jimmy Thomas, chairman of the Bingo Association of Great Britain, claims the venture capitalists smell an imminent change in the way bingo halls are taxed.

He says the industry has been hammered by a 10 per cent betting levy, taken from the stake only, while other forms of gambling have seen taxation fall below this level. Despite their falling income. bingo companies have been obliged by competition not to drop their prize money, he says. Pressures of this sort prompted Bass to write down the value of its Gala clubs by £177 million earlier this

The new Labour Govern-

ment, Mr Thomas feels, may be more likely to lower the bingo tax. In the meantime, he says: "There are now about 250 clubs at risk of closing if there isn't some change in taxation." These include small town-centre halls that are often located in areas where unemployment is already

Gala, says the chance of a tax change was never a motivation. Nor is the Gala deal a covert property play, aimed at getting hold of the more attrac-

tive sites in the Gala portfolio. He says the deal makes sense because the effect of the National Lottery on takings

'People are still not going to pop in to bingo on their way to the disco'

high. About 100 clubs have closed since the National Lottery started, involving the loss of about 3,200 jobs, says Mr

But what do the venture capitalists themselves have to say? Alistair Mackintosh of PPM Ventures, which is not revealing the equity structure

has levelled off: "The major drivers of the business are predominantly positive. Admissions are starting to

Total stakes in the year to March 1997 were almost £1 billion, up 7 per cent. deregulation. In April 1997,

tions on advertising, as well as permitting the use of debit cards for payment. PPM Ventures and the Gala managers believe this freedom will enable them to compete on more equal terms with the National Peter Taylor, a director of

islation to remove all restric-

محددمن رالإمل

Hambro European Ventures (HEV), claims the National Lottery was not the only thing keeping down profits at bingo clubs: A lot of the problem was bad management." He claims that some operators allowed themselves to get bogged down in price wars to detriment of their

The Vardon clubs bought by HEV tend to be located in secondary towns where there

One leisure analyst says Rank stands out from the other big operators as the most committed investor in bingo: "It has kept on plugging in money and effort.

They have roughly the same number of sites as Bass had but I think they have been more selective with their acquisition of sites."

He said Bass's progress in rolling out the bigger, purpose-built clubs, often on the edge of towns, was hampered by weaker returns from older sites, such as converted

It is widely held that the newer, larger, "flat floor" sites are the way forward. They can offer restaurants, bars and car parking — the latter being vital for older, more vulnerable clientele at night.

They appear to have had some success in driving down the average age of the bingo punter, but there is scepticism about how far this could go. One analyst concludes: People are still not going to pop in to bingo on their way to

quire thousands of titles. They

grew to five stores and then

sold out to K-Mart, a discount

retailing conglomerate that

launched Borders nationally

and let it go public two years

ago under its chief executive officer, Bob DiRomualdo.

Leonard Riggio began his

bookselling career while at-

tending New York University

in the early 1960s. As an

assistant in the university

bookshop, he was convinced

he could do better and opened

a competing shop in Green-

Mr Riggio had grown to six

college bookstores by 1971 when he bought Barnes and Noble on Fifth Avenue, an

institution that had fallen into

decline. He transformed it into

the "world's biggest book-

store" that serves as the model

Barnes and Noble also owns

more than 500 B. Dalton book

shops in shopping malls while

Borders owns Waldenbooks,

another mall retailer with

buying all these books and

how many are sent back under

sale-or-return agreements

with publishers. Yet Barnes

for today's superstores.

wich Village.

ADAM JONES

MARKETING

Blair may hold the key to a

This is a story about a marketing director slipping through the grasp of the French legal system, an obscure Greek ban on toy advertising, a flagrant challenge to the Treaty of Rome and a cry for help to Tony Blair.

The starring role, however, goes to marketing and the saga of how red tape is threatening to slowly, but surely, throttle the very life out of it. In the past few days the convergence of a number of factors has forced the issue of Brussels interference with the marketing industry to centre stage.

Last week the European Commission balked at taking action against member countries that have banned various marketing activities. In order for the bans to be lifted, the College of Commis sioners has to recommend the cases to the European Court of Justice. Yet, despite being presented with what appears to be prima facie evidence of a breach of a central tenet to the Treaty of Rome — the right of a company to market its goods freely within a single market — the 20 commissioners will not budge.

A spokeswoman said: The commissioners have to be convinced, and they, in turn, have to convince the court. These sort of complex legal matters do take time."

It is an excuse that doesn't wash with the Advertising Association. Stanbrook, its deputy director-general, said: The whole point of a single market was to pull down the barriers to trade so you don't have to think about a different set of rules for each country. But these people the commissioners think marketing is an extension of social policy.

His wrath is focused on three controversial laws that, at the time of their introduction, were hailed as crusading pieces of social legislation in France, Germany and Greece.

more than 900 shops. France's Loi Evin. a ban Mr Riggio has declared a goal of 1,100 superstores by on alcohol advertising that 2000 while Borders opens a is activated only after receipt new branch on average every of a complaint, was introduced to combat teenage ten days. The costs of such drinking. Germany's limits breakneck growth make for on sales promotions were to razor-thin earnings, but both chains enjoyed a 15 per cent protect consumers from confusing and misleading price increase in third-quarter sales compared with a year ago of promotions and loyalty \$480 million for Borders and schemes. And Greece's re-\$614 million for Barnes and strictions on toy advertising Noble. Wall Street remains were, in part, a reaction to encouraged that the firms have underlying profitability. the prospect of an unrelenting diet of American-style Still, some wonder who is

Barbie and Ken ads. Although these laws have

what they set out to do, they have put marketing in the dock. So dracomian are these laws that the marketing director of one UK-based drinks firm was hauled before a judge in Toulouse, in the south of France, and threatened with a custodial sentence after a poster was found to be in breach of Loi Evin. It was only the skill of his legal team that saved him from jail.

In Greece, the ban has halved the sales of UK manufacturers in that country. Peter Waterman, an executive at Hasbro and a spokesman of the Toy Industries of Europe, says: "We bring out more new products than any other industry at any time. The only way to get these products to market is through advertising. And we can't do that."

The issue is not, however, limited to those industries immediately affected. The three cases are indicative of how Brussels refuses to deal a fair hand to the marketing industry, says Mr Stanbrook

So exasperated is the Advertising Association that it is pinning its hopes on the one avenue left open to it: Great Britain's presidency of the EU. Tony Blair is being urged to champion marketing's cause when he takes up the presidency in the new year. It's an issue the industry wants to keep at the top of the agenda because every passing week sees the emergence of more laws that threaten to curb the activities of the marketing industry.

7 hether it is France trying to impose a l V per cent tax on all direct marketing, or Sweden banning marketing to children under 12, everyone is out to throw grit in the marketing engine. Last week the oddly-named ISDN directive was given the green light and could be law within months. It proposes that people can opt out of their directory information being used for telemarketing and direct mail purposes. A company ild need prior consen before communicating with that particular person by the phone or post, thereby forcing companies to work within an impossible framework.

"We're not advocating a free-for-all. But if one thing is legal in one country then it should be legal in another," said Mr Stanbrook. Marketing, it seems, is the

outlaw of today's Europe.

JULIAN LEE

American booksellers offer Britain chapter and verse on the future

Independents

face threat from US

methods and

stores, says

Ian Brodie

very Saturday, and often during the week, my local bookshop in the Washington suburbs is packed. It is a Borders superstore that is vast yet also

warm and inviting. Browsing is positively encouraged. Armchairs and sofas are scattered about. There are no hassles if you loiter at the maze of magazine racks or sneak a look at the latest American and foreign newspapers and then quietly put:

them back on the shelf. Every day sees a special event, from rap sessions with authors to readings for local oets and performances b instrumental groups. You can dawdle over a cappaccino while leafing through books that have caught your fancy from the 150,000 titles on offer.

It is known as a place for chance encounters and some lone readers discreetly eye the possibilities, finding the atmosphere far less pressured than a singles bar. It is also a draw for families with a spacious children's section displaying an irresistible array of books and toys just waiting to be picked up. The music department has a hundred sets of headphones for sampling CDs from pop to an extensive range of jazz, classics and new age.

The Borders experience is known in the book trade as "destination shopping". The aim is to make going to Borders an outing, rather than just nipping into a shop to buy

Amazingly, there are now 200 Borders in America plus a further 469 similar super-stores owned by Barnes and Noble. Both firms compete aggressively and continue to expand rapidly. The consequences for bookselling in the US are profound and are



Browsing is encouraged in the new-style bookshops where spacious children's sections are proving a draw for families

starting to affect Britain, where the trade is in a volatile phase. The first British Borders will open next June in Leeds. If that goes well, London will probably be next.
Last September, Borders
bought Books Etc., the British independent chain, just as it was about to go public.

Speculation has grown that Barnes and Noble is surveying the British market and even scouting locations. A spokesman for the company said there were no specific plans to extend internationally, but she admitted: "I'm sure we have people exploring possibilities and feasibilities overseas."

Barnes and Noble could more than match Borders' stake in Britain by making a bid for Waterstone's. Its parent, WH Smith, wants to spin off the chain in the spring. Meanwhile, Waterstone's has opened a Borders-style store in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, and it is doing better than

ers are pleased by the enticing new bookshops carrying thousands of volumes, but there is a gloomy side to the spread of these "category killers". The share of volumes sold by independent bookshops has dropped in the past four years from one in four to one in five. At least several hundred independents have been forced to close, according to Avin Mark Domnitz, director of the American Booksellers Association, who said: "It's my opinion that

a significant portion of those

Many American book-lov-

losses were because of competition brought on by chains."
His association alleges that American publishers improperly sell books to chains on advantageous terms. One result is unbridled discounting of retail prices. Mr Domnitz predicted a similar upheaval in Britain with the loss of the Net Book Agreement.

Some independents are hitting back successfully. Elaine Petrocelli was chosen as Pub-

lishers. Weekly's bookseller of the year for the panache of the shop Book Passage that she runs with her husband Bill in the well-to-do environs north of San Francisco. They have a welcoming ambience that

equals Borders. In Atlanta, Barbara Babbit Kaufman has taken on the giants by offering deep discounts in her thriving local chain of 11 shops. In deliberate contrast to "destination shopping", she emphasises the convenience of her branches in suburban neighbourhoods, with easy parking and quick

ookselling has also entered the uncertain realm of the Internet. Amazon.com calls itself "Earth's biggest book-store" with an online catalogue of 2.5 million titles, equivalent to 40 New York phone books. Jeff Bezos founded the firm in his garage two-and-a-half years ago. This

year his sales for the third quarter were \$38 million, a 36 per cent increase over the previous quarter, but his net loss was \$8.5 million,

Mr Bezos said he was still losing money because of heavy investment for the future in infrastructure, marketing and distribution. He predicted that 10 to 15 per cent of books worldwide will eventually be sold on the Web. Amazon.com went public last May, floating for \$18 million. It is now worth \$50 million. Barnes and Noble has launched a Web site that is expected to break even in 1999. Borders will venture into

cyberspace next year. Borders and Barnes and Noble both had similar beginnings. Brothers Tom and Louis Borders started in Michigan 25 years ago and 14 years later opened a second branch. After installing chairs, they found customers enjoyed loafing and sales went up. The brothers revolutionised inventory management with com-

and Noble has found an intriguing trend in readers' The company has revealed that so-called bestsellers account for less than 3 per cent of its sales while titles from smaller publishers, independents and university presses continue to grow. Purchases from the top ten publishers have declined to 46 per cent of the total compared with 75 per cent just three years ago, reflecting a wider range of customer interest in lesserknown works of serious fiction

viously recognised.

has been a little misunderstanding at

Sir Colin is supposed to take over

from Barrie Stephens at the helm of the Windsor-based electronics group

next year, but Barrie wants to hang up

his hat in February and Sir Colin says

To solve this problem Sir Philip Beck is stepping in as temporary chairman. Not that he has all that

much free time. He is already as direc-

tor of Delta, Railtrack and Kitigawa

he will not be free then.

and non-fiction than was premas. According to my calculations the CBI president has eight company directorships, including a handful of chairmanships, which is why there

We'll give all your ideas the ring of confidence.

JASON NISSÉ



Sir Colin Marshall deserves a

Don-Cruickshank, is clearly not a man to be hurried. The outgoing Offel boss has said that his role as the new head of the Government's Action 2000 will be "raising the tempo" of awareness of the millennium bug. But isn't Cruickshank taking a rather softly, softly approach?

Asked when Action 2000's web site and telephone horline would be operational, Cruickshank answered sometime in the new year, later admitting that Action 2000 was not prepared to answer calls yet. The task

RICHARD BRANSON'S old mate,



"It's imelda Marcos with a last-minute bid

next year and has not even appointed a full-time director (Don will be working only one day a week). But does this bother Cruickshank?

Not a jot. He hasn't even appointed an acting director and says he thinks a wait of three months is reasonable to find the right person for the role. I assume Action 2000 will be up and running in time for the millennium.

☐ THIS will all be music to the ears of those at Railtrack Cruickshank has threatened to fine utilities which are not making adequate preparations for the millennium bug. But Railtrack tells me it has set up a Rail Millennium Project Office, headed by David Rayner, Railtrack's former head of safety, and funded to the tune of £1.5 million. "That's £500,000 more than the Government has spent," a spokeswoman boasts.

Mace bonus

A HEART-WARMING tale for Christmas. The three founders of Mace, the construction project manager, are offering their staff up to 15 per cent of the company at cost. According to the chairman, Ian Macpherson, the move is an attempt to. preserve the independence of Mace, and secure jurisdiction for asset pres-



which has recently received a number of bid approaches from large builders. But Macpherson, who set up Mace less than eight years ago with two colleagues and has seen it grow from eight staff to 450, is keen to maintain the group's independence for the future. He plans to offer another tranche in 1999 and another three or four years afterwards.

☐ FULL marks to Deborah Dore of the Bermuda International Business Association, who, having read of the Geoffrey Robinson affair, contacted us with a glossy brochure on the advantages of setting up trusts in Ber-muda. "Bermuda has acquired an exemplary reputation as a discrete

ervation and wealth management," it boasts. I will pass on the brochure when we find out who, indeed, are the

Shopaholics DAVID JAMES and Philip Green,

who spent most of last week haggling over Sears' Shoe Express operation. spent most of yesterday haggling over who worked hardest. Green tells me he was up all night on Tuesday and Thursday, and in at the weekend, while, James, who turned 60 earlier this month, says he only managed to get home on Thursday night. "I've not worked so hard since the Danair rescue," James tells me. That does not sound encouraging for Sears.

So forgetful

I NOTICE an interesting similarity between the advertisement published yesterday on behalf of Dresdner RCM Global Investors (the new name for Kleinwort Benson Investment Management), showing a steel forge, and a similar advert run last year by Nabarro Nathanson, the lawyers, also showing a steel forge. Can it be a coincidence that both use the same advertising agency, Citigate Albert Frank?

Split personality I TRUST that Sir Colin Marshall is

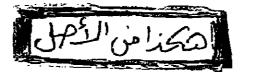
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Masters of a surreal universe

The National Film Theatre is devoting a season to Russian cinema. Carol Allen

talks to one of its pioneer directors

Sergei Bodrov writes

"between the lines"

ergei Bodrov's film Prisoner of the Mountains is a useful illustration of what is happening in Russian cinema today. First there is the story itself. which could not possibly have been made in pre-glasnost days. The first major film to deal with the conflict in Chechnya, it tells of two Russian soldiers captured by a Chechen village elder, who hopes to exchange them for his son, held prisoner by the Russians. It is based on a story written by Tolstoy 150 years ago. As Bodrov says: "Same people, same

war, same country.

"For 150 years Russia and Chechnya have had a difficult relationship. I wanted to make a human story. I didn't want to take

sides. I never mention in the movie that it's Chechnya but it's clear that I am sceptical about the Russian role in this, and that would have been enough to get it banned in the old days.1

The director speaks from experi-ence. A writer for the satirical publication Krokodil in the 1970s, where he became an expert at what he terms "writing between the lines", he attempted to do the same thing when he turned to

writing screenplays, but found that in the NFT season include Mikhalthe directors who shot his films. eager not to fall foul of the censor. were excising the irony and just using the plot lines, turning them into films that were often applauded as popular comedies.

But I was ashamed." says Bodrov. "I wanted to say something serious and so I wanted to direct. The director's credit was removed from his first film, because it upset the authorities. That was in 1985 when Gorbachev had just come to power, but before the reforms began to bite. Two years later his second. Non-Professionals. was initially banned because it mentioned

The first film overtly to tackle the Afghan war was Vladimir Bortko's Afghan Breakdown, which was approved in 1988 but did not reach the screen until early 1992, by which time the Soviet Union had collapsed. Both Prisoner of the Mountains, which opens in Britain in February. and Afghan Breakdown are featured in the National Film Theatre's current season of contemporary Russian cinema.

A more honest depiction of Russia at war is by no means the only cinema. As Ian Christie, the compiler of the NFT season, explains:

"First of all there was the looking back and the facing up to the present, asking, how did we get to this dreadful situation? Is It Easy To Be Young? in 1987 was a Latvian film which was shown all over Russia and caused a crisis of national self-confidence. It's a documentary which shows that young people had completely lost faith in all the institutions. Repentance was about not having dealt with the legacy of Stalin, and Little Vera was a very frank portrayal of a dysfunctional Soviet family, which showed just how miserable life had become.

Then there's the hallucinatory fantasy films which developed in the late 1980s, as if that were the only way to deal with the absurdities and the paradoxes of the

example. The Kero-sene Seller's Wife. directed by the actor Aleksandr Kaidanovski, is a bit like David Lynch or David Cronenberg, full of grotesque images, using lantasy to say that the Soviet Union is a surreal universe and there's no point in trying to make sense of it."

In the 1990s the understandable fascination with the past has continued, with a particular interest in the 1930s. Examples

kov's Oscar-winner Burnt by the Sun and Hammer and Sickle, an absurdist projection of Stalin's edict:
"If the Motherland needs soldiers we'll make soldiers, and if it needs mothers, we'll make them," which involves a sex change from heroine

Russian cinema, however, faces two practical challenges with which film-makers in the West are all too familiar. Along with the freedom to make the films that they want, the removal of state finance means filmmakers have the problem of raising the money. In the early glasnost days cinema enjoyed something of a boom, with the reduction in state funding being made up partly by the Russian Malia, which used films to launder money.

But much of the new free cinema

failed to appeal to the Russian audience, who once went to the cinema more often than Americans. They started turning to television. where ironically some of the most popular programmes are now old Russian movies. Many cinemas have either fallen into disrepair or have been turned into car showrooms and other commercial entercommunist countries, the film-makers who are surviving are having to



A scene from Bodrov's Prisoner of the Mountains, the first major film to deal with the conflict in Chechnya, based on a Tolstoy story

learn the business side of film: how to make distribution deals, coproductions deals, video and television sales and, most importantly. keep control of costs.

Bodrov raised the money for Prisoner of the Mountains in Kazakhstan, and shot it in neighbouring Dagestan, only two hours' walk from where the fighting was still taking place. He had also by then learnt the importance of listening to his audience, remembering remarks made to him after screenings of Freedom is Paradise, his 1989 film ldren in 1 which did much to establish his international reputation.

The audience would say: We know you're making really good movies, but they're so dark and our lives are so tough now. Remember your old wonderful comedies? We want to laugh, we want another kind of movie. You must understand though, we made those dark movies because we were burning to tell the stories which had been forbidden. When we got this free-dom nobody knew for how long it

would continue." Prisoner of the Mountains, however, hit a popular emotional nerve audience. It was also nominated for the best foreign film Oscar last

spring. There is still a dark streak in contemporary Russian cinema, but film-makers are beginning to lighten up and win back more of their domestic audience. Two comedies chosen by Christie for his season

"Peculiarities of National Hunting was a huge popular success. It's incredibly funny and was highly controversial, in that even as people went to see it they said: This portrays us as a nation of hopeless drunkards. Should we be laughing

OK by a new film-maker, Astrakhan, which is a 'feel-good' social

comedy dealing in a very witty way with the absurdities of the new Russia, such as commercialism."

For Bodrov, who now lives mainly in the United States with his American wife, a whole new world of film-making possibilities has opened up. "I have good stories to make in America, I want to make a movie in China and in India, and some day I will make a movie in Russia again. After all those years of living in an Iron Curtain prison, I'm enjoying my life and the fact that I can work everywhere."

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NOTED

Factory to close?

OPERA: One of Britain's most pioneering opera companies, Opera Factory, has told its supporters that its next show will probably be its last The company, founded 15 years ago by the Australian director David Freeman. loses its Arts Council grant from the 1998-99 season. Its final offering will be a new commission. And the Snake Sheds its Skin. by Habib Faye, presented at the Drill Hall in London in April But even that production is in doubt £20,000 towards the staging has yet to be raised

CALLERIES: Ten readers of The Sun are to have their portraits of the Royal Family exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery. The show, which opens tomorrow and runs to January 25, displays the winners of a competition organised by the newspaper. More than 200 readers entered, their portraits ranging from oils and watercolours to pencil sketches and embroidery. Peter Grant, a former Butlin's portrait painter, received the £1,000 first prize.

POP: Still they rock on. The Rolling Stones keep up the amazing momentum of their "twilight years" with a Wembley Stadium show in front of 72,000 on August 20 next year. Part of their Bridges to Babylon world tour, it will be the eleventh time that the Stones have appeared at Wembley Stadium — a record exceeded only by Michael Jackson (15 shows). Also returning to Wembley Stadium next year - for the sixth time will be Elton John: he plays two Face to Face shows with Billy Joel next June.

THEATRE: After Wilde the movie comes Wilde the stage show. A highlight of the Almeida Theatre's spring season will be the world premiere of The Judas Kiss by David Hare: a play about Oscar, Bosie . . . and betrayal. Liam Neeson takes the part of Wilde, and Sir Richard Eyre directs an Almeida show for the first time although the performances will not be at the Islington theatre, but at the Playhouse in the West End. The Judas Kiss opens on March 19 for a six-week probable transfer to

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Barry Millington on two London orchestral concerts

suggested that there was a tendency to regard Brahms's music as "fat", preferring his own slimmed-down interpretation of the Violin Concerto. James Levine unquestionably adheres to the fat view of Brahms, and the first of his three Festival Hall concerts with the Philharmonia Orchestra was an unashamed

celebration of amplitude.

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Puritanical as it would be to criticise this approach to Brahms as intrinsically misguided - even in view of all the recent attempts to recapture the kind of sonorities the composer would have imagined - Levine's readings failed to convince even on their own terms. His abiding vice,

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in terms of symphonic struc-tures, is his inability to shape them into a coherent unity. He lives for the moment and cares little for the consequences. Thus, in the first movement of the Fourth Symphony we were offered warm, succulent string tone and bursts of radiant lyricism, but the tempo rela-

> The tempo wandered alarmingly in the Andante too. where pointed phrasing and hushed passages began to seem unduly self-conscious. The Scherzo was brutal and heavy, lacking charm or even in spite of the pace - real energy. The passacaglia fina-le, which should have tied all the ends together, seemed more undisciplined than ever. and with the brass used as a battering ram, orchestral blends never stood a chance.

tionships were so bizarrely conceived that the orchestra

never settled down.

Maxim Vengerov's ap-proach to the Violin Concerto neither "fat" nor "thin". Rather he brings to it an irresistible eloquence and lyricism that conquer all. At first it looked as though he would tame Levine's brute force, and indeed there was some sublime playing in the first movement, particularly when Vengerov was free to rhapsodise. As a whole, however, the movement failed to convince because it was sim-ply structurally unsound. If it is made to sound like a succession of beautiful moments with no linking thread. the composer has not been well served.

A very slow tempo for the Adagio is sustainable provided the orchestral accompaniment does not give the impression of treading water. That impression was not aiways avoided here, but the divinely inspired singing quality of Vengerov's tone carried the day, as did his virtuoso brilliance in the gypsy finale. Introducing her Clarinet Concerto, receiving its London premiere at the Barbican on

Thursday, Diana Burrell made it clear that the tradi-

tional Beethovenian heroic gestures of the individual pit-ted against the world were not for her. Rather the soloist, here the Northern Sinfonia's excellent principal clarinettist, Robert Plane, engages in constructive dialogue with the orchestra, offering it new ideas which are picked up and discussed.

These ideas are graphically and robustly exchanged, how-ever. Burrell has a penchant for pithy instructions in the score, reminiscent of Percy Grainger — "Short and spiky", "Celebratory. Strong" — and the music has a

corresponding directness that is most refreshing. In the slower middle section the soloist introduces a disturbing element with growling multiphonics. The orchestra's response is an admitty ob-served evocation of urban life that is enacted on several levels simultaneously.

The more celebratory aspect emerges strongly near the end where horns and trumpets are finally given their head, though for the most part the Concerto is sparsely scored. The Northern Sinfonia under its artistic director, Jean-Bernard Pommier, made a convincing job of it all, enabling Plane to give an assured and persuasive account of the solo role.

In Ravel's Piano Concerto in G. Pommier himself was the soloist, directing from the keyboard. His fingerwork was nimble and often refined, even if some of the orchestral playing was too brazenly highlighted. Solo passages frequently loomed too large and textural detail needed to be more recessed and suggestive.

in Schumann's Symphony No 2, with some episodes of the first movement failing to blend in ideally, and the atmosphere of mystery in the slow movement compromised by playing that was competent rather than outstanding. Pommier put his forces through their paces in the Scherzo, however - a test that they passed with flying colours - and the finale built to a resonant and satisfying conclusion.

POP: Highlights of a world music weekend. Plus pop-folk for the faithful

Clashing cultural symbols

Womad weekend can A often remind one on John Masefield's poem Cargoes - a global shipment of emeralds and amethysts, topazes and gold moidores of the musical variety, and plenty of "firewood, ironware and cheap tin trays" on sale at the myriad stalls on the fringe.

There was no "quinquireme of Nineveh" but, from strifetorn Mogadishu, after a sevenmonth walk across the Horn of Africa with her five children to escape the recent civil war in Somalia, came Maryam

music venue.

A similar flaw was evident instrumentation.



Mursal and her band Waaberi. Timeless and passionate, their powerful chants and acoustic rhythms drew on centuries of cross-fertilisation between nomadic African and Arabic tribes.

On the free stage in the foyer Justin Valli from Madagascar performed thrilling melodies

Dulled by polish

CONSIDERING that they last played live five years ago, and that this tour had already been postponed twice, it was amazing that so many devo-tees still turned up to catch ethereal pop-folk group the Sundays in Islington on Thursday night, But several hundred of the faithful dutifully packed out the pews of London's most atmospheric

Not that the band delivered flawless set. It was just such a rare treat to hear Harriet Wheeler's extravagantly beautiful singing voice in public after so lengthy a hiatus. Wheeler and her partner, guitarist David Gavurin. form the creative nucleus of the Sundays, although their live line-up incorporates three extra musicians to beef up their floaty, shimmering

The first number was a graceless and leaden reading of the band's formerly fleetfooted breakthrough single from 1989, Can't Be Sure. Indeed, for much of the set clattering drums and intrusive guitars drowned Wheeler's sublimely elegant warble. The best tunes featured just a skimming acoustic guitar or sparing

Tellingly, these tones and most of the other highlights date back to the band's marUnion Ghapel, N1



The Sundays: great voice, shame about the sparkle

vellous debut album, Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. After two further albums of increasingly timid and conservative fare, the Sundays have recently taken on a more sleepy and suburban demeanour. Thus the newer songs in their set, with the notable exception of the effusive recent single Summertime, were undeniably crafted and competent but lacked the old urgent sparkle. As the last wave of polite rapture faded. it was hard not to wish for a little less polished maturity.

STEPHEN DALTON

on the valiha, a tubular zither made from bamboo, while the conservatory stage revealed the soulful Djivan Gasparyan from Armenia with his duduk. a reedy woodwind instrument

of plaintive beauty. Much of the excitement in world music comes from cultural seepage along music's trade routes. Now based in Belgium, Zap Mama's jour-ney from Zaire has resulted in the best kind of synthesis swooping tribal voices and ancient a cappella harmonies, elements of hip-hop rhythms and the funky stage presence of Marie Daulne.

From Kenya Geoffrey Oryema was not so much a fusion of cultures as a clash of them. He began with a series of mesmeric tunes on traditional East African instruments but then introduced keyboards and guitar and offered a series of contemporary songs that could have graced a James Taylor album. He has a remarkable voice but the effect was schizophrenic. Blekbala Mujik, an Aboriginal band from Australia's Northern Territory, were also disappointing - conventional rock with didgeridoo and a few slogans about land rights. Yet what right do Western critics have to demand that ethnic performers remain in a cultural ghesto and eschew outside influences?

One of the highlights of Global Spirit turned out to be a home-grown act. Ghostland, playing only their second live date, combined powerful rock elements with sweeping strings, Celtic-influenced melodies and Arabic drones. This eclectic musical backdrop was augmented by guest singers Natacha Atlas, with a voice redolent of the souks and casbahs of North Africa, and Sinead O'Connor, whose rich backing vocals on the mantralike Guide Me God created one of the most memorable moments in a musical mystery tour of a magical weekend.

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Star's turn

YOU know you are in the presence of royalty when the opening applause is prompted, not by the entrance of the star herself, but by the arrival of the head of her fan club, Clive Davis writes. When Nina Simone arrived onstage at the end of the Global Spirit festival, she could have won a standing ovation simply by slipping out of her extravagant for coat.

The music did not entirely live up to the grandiose preliminaries, but there is no point expecting mere consistency from Simone's concerts. Trying to deliver an objective assessment is made more difficult by the sycophantic response of her audience. She played shamelessly to them at times, at one point veering into an over-ripe, up-tempo arrangement of My Way. Yet such is the force of her personality that the song ultimately came across as a bald

statement of fact.

Although she did not look in the best of health, the good news was that she seemed in unusually good spirits, trad-ing banter and, at the close, encouraging a sing-along on My Baby Just Cares For Me. There is no denying, though, that her singing has lost much of its lustre. Amid the whoops of delight from the stalls, it was almost distressing to hear her negotiating the melody of I Loves You Porgy. Only the shadow of the voice was left. yet it was still a strangely

compelling experience. The programme moved at its own idiosyncratic pace, an initial sequence of gospel numbers, including If You Pray Right, giving way to a halting version of Here Comes the Sun. An entirely redundant drum and percussion duel gave her an opportunity to slip backstage before she returned with the coy lyrics of Sugar in My Bowl and 2 reading of Baltimore that smuggled in a reggae beat halfway through.



With This

But the spirit is weak

fter the sensational success of the novel that gave him his Lnickname, M.G. "Monk" Lewis turned to the stage and in 1797 enjoyed an equivalent triumph with this Gothic melodrama of a bold bad earl, an elder brother chained for 16 years to a dungeon wall, a valiant maiden and her high-falutin lover. The first audiences thrilled to

Spectre Warehouse, Croydon

the scenic effects, the ghosts real and pretended, the lastminute rescues and abrupt reversals of fortune.

Later the play became an entertainment where audiences could feel superior to the tastes of their grandparents, so much so that a critic could write of an 1880 revival that people dislocated many of the stalls with their mirth".

In its bicentenary year two London companies have blown the dust off this ancient piece. At the Rose and Crown, Hampton Wick, the Comyns Carr Theatre Company appears to be playing it fairly straight, which cannot be said of Phil Willmott's version at the Warehouse in East Croydon, where much of the old baby was thrown out when the new bathwater was thrown in.

The fragments of the original that I have read seem sturdy enough, but I guess that other passages are neither intentionally nor accidentally funny enough to hold the stage today. Lewis himself introduced comic servants into his story, but for him they functioned as foils to their broodingly wicked master. By employing them the Earl of

Carry on

therapy

THERE is something deeply peculiar

about a man who makes a career out

of impersonating Kenneth Williams.

It's a bit like building your own pier to sink at the end of it. David Benson is

ing a black corner of the Lyric Studio

with just a chair and a spotlight, he

adopts a nasal twang, sucks in his cheeks, clenches a phantom lemon

between his buttocks, and rolls his

tongue," Benson intones saucily, nod-

ding his head, wrinkling his nose and

arching his eyebrows. The audience laughs. It's a faultless piece of mimic-

says in mock concern to a strapping

labourer in danger of sunburn. As the

innuendos pile up, so does the image

of Williams as a peevish short-

tempered man who gives two fingers

'Ooh, my mother loves a bit of

eveballs as if infected with BSE.



Martyn Stanbridge, Mali Harries and Damien Goodwin in the underwhelming Gothic melodrama, The Castle Spectre

Conwy scored no points for chockful of meaty adjectives, common sense, but at Croydon, where his household is seriously understaffed for a man of fabulous wealth, his fondness for sharing details of his plots with two untrustworthy servants makes him look perfectly fat-headed.

Listening to the characters slide from the high-sounding and sententious style of Lewis. to Willmott's simpler retorts is depressing, even before they take the next step and descend

to Carry On Spectre. Love potions drunk by a servant who then starts kissing his master, disabling blows to the male groin — these are such obvious ways of spoofing for laughter and, since they have become the house style for Christmas shows at this venat one and the same time, so phut goes the blood-spattered ue, I suppose it means that Ted Craig knows his audience.

We are offered a thinnish Among some stiff, puddingy comedy that sends up the acting Damien Goodwin postures of melodrama but brings a touch of relish to the does not give us the frissons of blundering lover, and Martyn scenic horror. Nor, with only Stanbridge is a handsome one woman in the cast, can it villain in black velvet. They show us virtuous, valiant Andeserve a better melodrama. gela (Mali Harries) and the ghost of her murdered mother

JEREMY KINGSTON

Devil gets

Diversity (Control of the Control of

l could have offered some welcome seasonal substance. Brian O'Reilly's Buskin' is not,

however, the sort to grapple too long or too hard with questions of sin, redemption or immortality. For his telling of the story, O'Reilly recasts the devil as a shady Mafioso impresario (Garry Montaine) who offers a fast track to Top of the Pops to a naive busker (Gavin McCormack). Somewhere back home there is a girlfriend (Ursula McLoughlin) who may yet save the weepy busker from his fate, while in the big city an evil temptress (Rebecca. Smith) enlists on Satan's side. Outside this basic line-up, characters quickly

For Buskin' to have been a better musical, such a raw statement of plot should have been simply a starting point, a signpost to where the evenine's pleasures originate. In Buskin', it is almost all there is.

What Buskin' lacks is any sense of something being busked. It sticks rigidly to its own familiar formulas. avoiding the unorthodox as though it might constitute dramatic weakness.

The evening consequently falls short on fun. What pleasure there is comes mainly from Montaine's Old Nick, an engaging rogue with the best tune of the evening, the Dixie-flavoured Old Devil Blues. As the busker, McCordelivering ballads to have any chance of building a character. Neither Smith

nor McLoughlin fares much better. Nobody is really helped by the design of the show, which is full of distracting inconsistencies. The decision to style the devil and his entourage as 1930s gangsters and then have them perform a rap number is one aspect of the production which does not seem to have been fully thought through. As with much of Buskin', it is hard to believe that some fresher solutions could not have been found to some old. old problems.

LUKE CLANCY

TODAY'S CHOICE

ornalistates as constituting in the melitinus voice of Rosa Marmion can be savoured tonight as the English soprane joins the Orchestra and Chair of

St John's for a seasonal programme featuring works by Tella, Handel, Back and Purcell, John Lubbook conducts St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061), Tonight, 7 30pm. ELISABETTA: The Royal Opera in exile ments the bicentenary of Gaetano Donizeth with the world premiere of the composer's "lost" trag-comedy, discovered in the company's archives

in 1984 Carlo Rizzi conducts a concert in 1994 Carin razz conductor a concer-performance by the Royal Opera House Orchestra and Chorus Solosts include Andrea Rost and Robin Leggate Feativel Hell, South Bank SE1 (0171-980 4242). Tonight, 7pm (§)

CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT: Th

LONDON

HEID! GRANT MURPHY: London debut for the American soprano whose growing reputation in her native land has led to a number of bookings across the globe. Tonight's rectal spans tour certures and includes works by Hendel, Schumann, Mahler and Barber. She is accompanied on the plann by her husband. Revin Membry. husband, Kevin Murphy Wigmore Hell, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. (2)

PETER PAN: Lan McKellen plays Hook and Mr Derling, with Daniel Evans as the boy who won't grow up and Alec McCowen as the storyfeller, in a new version by Trevor Num (who also directs) and John Card National Theatre (Olivier), South National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Opens tonight, 7pm in reperiore. ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: The see dancing dream team Torvill and Dean luck oil their new skating spectacular, for Adventures, here. The collaboration

A daily guide to arts and entertainment complied by Marit Hargie

production which features a hand-picked company of international skaling stars and promises more dazzle and glitz than anything the duo has MEC, Junction 6, M42 (0121-790 4133) Tongits-Dec 28, 7,30pm, mats Dec 20 and 28, 2pm. No performances Dec 25 and 26 (5)

CHELTENHAM. Whiter and composer of the musical Whitele Down the West. Richard Taylor, turns his attention to the



Heidi Grant Murphy

and myth for children of all ages. Everymen Theatre, Riggert Street (01242 572573). Today and tomonow, 16 30am and 2pm; Thr-Sat, 2pm and 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 2pm and 7pm, suspet Dec 24 and 31, 12 noon and 4pm agric light. 7pm psit, Cleans Dec

EDINBLIRGH: Sentish Relief errore with its sparking production of La file its gardée, Sv Frederick Ashlon's last-paced colobration of the intemph of young love over adversity. The role of Alam, danced by Wayne Sleep at the Glasgow opening last month, will now be shared between Keith Prested and from Diney. The female cast remains

Festival Theatre, Nicolson-Street (0131-529 6000) Tonghi-Dec 27. 7.30pm, mats Dec 18, 20, 23, 24, 27 2.30pm. No perts Dec 25, 26, Sun (A)

SHEFFIELD. David Sulkin directs My SHIEF HELD. Leave and Suich direct, by Pilir Ledy — Leaver and Leave's cassed musical based on Shaw's romantic, comedy, Pygmalian A cast of start from the siver screen and five West End stage includes Sanah-Jane Hassel, Cive Carter and Sased Jaffrey.
Crucible Theatre, Nortoli, Street (0114
2769922) Opens tonight, 7 30pm Then.
Mon-Sar, 7 30pm; mais almost daily
umil Jan 5 Ends Jen 17

LONDON GALLERIES

Entitish Museum: Certer 1900-1939 (0171-323 8525) Design Misseum: A lour of bicycle design history (0171-378 6055). Misseum of London. Bedam: Custody, care and cure. 1247-1997 (0171-800 B057). National Hogarin's Memage Ala-Mode (0171-747 2885). National Portrait Sr Henry Raebum (0171-305 0055). Royal Academy Victorian Fary Parting (0171-435 7438). Serpentine: Pero Manzoru (0171-402

Serpentine: Piero Mangoni (0171-402 6075) Tate Age of Rossetti, Burne-Jones, Watts (0177-887 8000)

building to an amazing cirmar Old Vie, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7 45pm, mats Sat and come weekdays, 4pm,

C STEPPING OUT. Musical version of Richard Harris's hit play imusic and lyins by Denis King and Mary Slewari David). Julia Mickeruse directs Lic. Robortson and her hopeful hoolers.

Albery, St Marim's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats

Benson completes more than a year of touring his fascinating, semi-

THINK NO EVIL OF US David

Wuserns.
Lyric Studio, king Street,
Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 8701)
Mon-Sat, Bpm; mat Sat, 4 30pm (5)

Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

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debuts at the Wigmore

ART: Ron Cook, Nigel Havers and Malcolm Storry in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship. white painting. Wyndham's, Chemig Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, 8pm, mais Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm

THE CHAIRS: Richard Briefs and

Complicite
Royal Court Downstains (Duke of
York's), St Martin's Lene, WC2 (0171-565 5000), Mon-Set, 7 30pm, met Set,
3.30pm Until Jen 31, 55

IN THE FRONT PAGE: Alun Armstrong and Grill Rhys Jones play hard-nosed editor and ace reporter. Amstrong and Griff Phys. Jones play hard-nosed editor and ace reporter, leading a lovely cast in Sam Mendes's production of the classic Ben Hecht/Charles MacArthur comedy set in the newspaper world. Donmar Warehouse, Earthern Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sai. 7 30pm, mais Wed and Sat, 3pm. (§)

AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Return of Peter Half se enjoyable production, brimtul of deceptions. Starring Martin Shaw and Simon Ward, and hate O'Mara as the svette troublemaker Gielgod, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mets Thur Son and Sat 4pm.

SI JULIAN CLARY — SPECIAL DELIVERY: JC is here until the New Year, leatening on and over the

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boundary of conventional good taste One of the show's mores, believe it or not, is bables Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9967) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mar Sat, 3pm Unit January 3

LITTLE EYOLF Territo playing by Robert Glenuster and Joerne Pearce : the heart of Adrian Noble's superb losen production. Guilt, remorse and renewal in the fiold Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk St. EC2

THE MAGISTRATE, ION IN THE MARIES HATE, Ign
Richardson plays the much harassed
hero of Pinero's evergreen targe
Nicholas Broadhurst's cast from
Chichester includes Graham Crowden,
Abogal McKern and Frank Middlemass
Servoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836
8889) Mon-Sai, 7 30pm, mais Wed and
Ser Som Kil

IN SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW Slava

CINEMA GUIDE

A FURTHER GESTURE (15) Stephen Rea's escaped IRA posoner finds life hard in Manhettan Eloquent human drame, with Rosena Pastor and Aired Molina, Director, Roben Domhelm ABC PiccadBy (0171-437 3561)

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (18): Reckless leenagers get their comeuppance. Variable horror film from the writer of Scream. With Jerunfer Love Hewitt, Freddie Prinze Jr. Director. Jim Gillespe Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Swise Cottage (0181-315 4220) Plaza

Sense Consept (101-1319 4220 Fraza § 0990 88990) RRzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys § (0990 889990) Virgins: Fulltam Road (0171-370 2536) Trocadero § (0181-970 6015) Warner § (0171-437 4343)

PERSONS UNKNOWN (18) Joe Mantegna, Kelly Lynch and Naom Watts burn their fingers stealing drug money So-so crime thriller, directed by George Metro (0171-437 0757)

PTOMORROW NEVER DIES (12):
Perce Brosnen's James Bond combats an evil media mogul (Jonathan Pryce)
Set peace thrills, but little sparkle With Michelle Yeoh and Ten Hatcher:
Director, Roger Spottswoode
ABC Tottlentham Court Road (0171-638 8891)
Clapham Pictars House (0171-698 3323) Curzon Marvian (0171-898 3720) 3323) Curzon Mayfair (0)71-369 1720)

films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Notting Hill Coronet (5) (0171-727 6705) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Leicester Square (0181-315 4215) Cottage (0181-315 4220) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Virgins: Chelsea (0171-362 5096) Fulham Road (0171-370 2636)

CURRENT A ALIEN RESURRECTION (19):

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ABC Balser Street (0171-936 9772)
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The Bornburgs for their home scavengers fight for their home Echlerating tamily film, much adapted from the children's classic With John Goodman, Jim Broadbent, Director, Peter Hewitt. Barbican (\$) (0171-638 8591)

Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeons Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swise Cottage Arch (0181-315 4276) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) Pizzza & (0990 888990) Utcl Whiteleys & (0990 888990) Virgins: Fullham Road (0171-370 2638) Trocadero & (0181-970 6015) Warner & (0171-437 4343)

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of millions but in reality an ailing loner who couldn't love himself. The starting point of this strange fascination is that in 1975, aged 13, Benson wrote a story that was chosen

to autograph hunters and American

tourists. Benson paints a man beloved

and read out by Williams on Jackanory. That seems to have been enough to turn his head permanently. As with all obsessions, Benson turns out to be more interested in himself than the off-screen persona of Williams. Neither of their lives makes pleasant viewing. The flow of inmendo dribbling from the Carry On star becomes oppressive and boring. ation to talk about himself we hear of a childhood disturbed by a clinically insane mother "who the whole family wanted to murder". Self-deprecating stories of jolly school showers and puberty fail to hide Benson's awkward

adolescence and fear of being gay. His desire to hang out his laundry with Williams seems entirely to do with self-worth rather than entertainment. While Williams never quite ry. "Your thighs will be ablaze," he found self-love, Benson has discovered plenty doing this show. My main criticism is that he doesn't make his therapy nearly entertaining enough.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER slip over the event horizon.

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male students were steered

towards embroidery and illus-

tration by teachers who as-

sumed that the decorative arts

were appropriate for young

women destined to marry and

n the blinkered view of its founding members. the Pre-Raphaelite movement had no room for women artists. The young rebels who banded together in 1848 were all male, and underlined their gender by calling themselves a brotherhood. They may have worshipped women obsessively, but Pre-Raphaelite men were less enthusiastic if the female muse wanted to become a practitioner.

This reluctance to acknowledge any female contribution has distorted our understanding of the Pre-Raphaelite achievement. When the Tate Gallery mounted its hugely popular survey of the movement in 1984, only one woman was included: the tragically short-lived Elizabeth Siddal. And her three small works were overshadowed by the fact that she married Dante Gabriel Rossetti and served as a blanched model for paintings as celebrated as Millais' Ophelia. Even today, we know Siddal best as the listless, doomed figure singing as she drowns in the flowerstrewn brook. Like so many women in Pre-Raphaelite pictures, she enacts the role of the passive, infinitely desired and yet unattainable victim. It is

an irritating stereotype, ripe

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monastery in Hildesheim, now with its third owner in

800 years. There is David

Hockney's Pearblossom Highway, composed of 700 small

snapshots and treasured until last year by the artist. You can

6 The

Getty

Centre

is its own

created

see a Elo million

Poussin bought re-

cently from Sudeley Castle.

and most of the

collection once housed in the Get-

Yet this is all

beside the point.

To grasp this spec-

tacular museum's

and pause among

the gilded Renais-

Hollywood Hills.

sance altarpieces upstairs in

the North Pavilion. Then leave

the pavilion, heading south.

and gasp if you must. In the foreground. 200ft of blind

marble rampart plunges to-

ward a landscaped canyon. In

the middle distance is Century

City. Beyond that are the

Keep going through the glowing Rembrandts of the

East Pavilion and you come to

a terrace with views, on a good

day, of Catalina Island across

Thirteen years and a billion

dollars after it was first

thought of, the Getty Centre

not only provides an exquisite

new home for an important

50 miles of Pacific Ocean.

significance you have to go there

■ ty's Malibu villa.

And now, on the eve of the movement's 150th anniversary, Manchester City Art Galleries has produced a timely corrective. No fewer than 20 Pre-Raphaelite women artists are brought together, represented for the most part by images never publicly displayed during the present century

The show's zealous

organisers, Jan Marsh and Pamela Gerrish Nunn, have made some remarkable discoveries. The most unexpected is a painting called England and Italy by Jane Benham Hay, an ironmonger's daugh-ter who won considerable success at Royal Academy exhibitions. Like so many cf the women on view here, she was soon forgotten. Nobody knows when or where she died But it was probably in Italy, the country she settled in after espousing the cause of Italian independence.

This is the theme of the newly found canvas, missing ever since it was first displayed at the Academy in 1859. Painted only a year before Garibaldi was installed in Italy as the hero of unification, it shows two boys standing together in the Val d'Arno. One, blond and English, rests a hand on the shoulder of his dark-haired Italian compan-

(though patchy) art collection. It also gives the world a new

perspective on America's most

high-tech tram that takes visi-

tors up a long slope from an

underground car park to

The first hint of genius is a

well-dressed English boy is

contrasted with the frowning restlessness of his barefoot friend. And the heap of stones and earth in front of them may be intended to reflect Italy's fragmented, perilous state. But it is not a doggedly symbolic picture. Benham Hay handles the sunlit landscape with a realist's precision. and her sympathetic portrayal of the boys deserves to be ranked with Winslow Homer's paintings of children in

Benham Hay and her equally progressive friends. Anna Mary Howitt and Barbara Leigh Smith, were determined to help each other to attain the independence enjoyed by men. "What schemes of life have we not worked out whilst we have been together!" exclaimed Howitt, describing the three women as the "germ of a beautiful sisterhood in Art, of which we have all dreamed

Their task was far from easy. The strength of their feminist convictions was pitted, not only against patronising masculine prejudice in general, but the obstaion. The placid elegance of the cles thrown up by art

Giles Whittell visits Los Angeles's new Getty Centre, which opens today

Gasp at the view, gulp at the art

rural America.

Richard Cork on Manchester's admirable attempt to give Pre-Raphaelite women artists their due education in particular. Fe-

> look after children. ven the students resolute enough to insist on using oil and mar-ble found themselves barred from the life class. Without access to the nude model, they had difficulty in mastering figure drawing, then regarded as the indispensable foundation of all the most ambitious works of art. As for travelling, in order to scrutinise the finest examples of European painting and sculpture, it was regarded as a hazardous enterprise best left

No wonder the Pre-Raphaelite women sought solidarity in a sisterhood. Mutual support would help to protect them, but even the militant Howitt could not shield herself from the debilitating onslaught of professional male opinion. When her painting of Boadicea was rejected by the Royal Academy and crushingly criti-

to men alone.

cised by the influential John Ruskin, she suffered a mental breakdown. After destroying her work and jettisoning all hope of further esteem, Howitt henceforth devoted herself to spiritualism. Only a sensitive pencil drawing of Elizabeth Siddal, wearing iris flowers in her hair, represents Howitt's lost ocuvre in this survey.

But Leigh Smith, the other sister", has four exhibits, and her unusually large watercolour panorama of Ventnor on the Isle of Wight is outstanding. She approaches the coastal scene with the same realist hunger that Benham Hay displayed in England and Italy. The Ventnor picture, however, carries a far greater freight of detail. Like all the finest Pre-Raphaelite landscapes, it has an almost microscopic intensity, and yet the overall luminosity of the limpid sea and sky is evoked without a trace of pedantic

Leigh Smith was a doughty campaigner for women's rights. She played a major role in the Langham Place Group, which fought for suffrage and brought about the founding of Girton College in Cambridge.

Similar views were advanced by other female Pre-Raphaelites, some of whom were drawn to the movement's interest in an art based on

contemporary issues. Anna Blunden, whose Cornish watercolour of Polpeor Beach near the Lizard has a near-hallucinatory, hairsbreadth clarity, was committed to social reform. Her painting of a seamstress star-ing from a sweatshop window was inspired by Thomas Hood's polemical poem The Song of the Shirt. Cruder than the Polpeor watercolour, its uncertain command of figure painting reflects the fact that Blunden was self-taught as an

But the image of a woman isolated in a room proves the most powerful motif in the exhibition. Marianne Stokes an Austrian who married a British painter and settled in St Ives, produced an impressive canvas called St Elizabeth of Hungary Spinning for the Poor. Unlike Blunden's seamstress, Stokes's saint belongs to the past. The style suggests the influence of Rogier van der Weyden, but the 15th-century precision is matched by a late 19th-century feeling for simplification in a shallow space.

At first glance, the lone figure of Melody (Musica) painted by Kate Bunce seems

LONDON **GALLERIES**

CUBBITT has reopened with an ambitious and perhaps more consistent programme. The first exhibition, We gotta get out of this place, is meant to function in a variety of ways. A small separate space within the main space presents a quasidocumentary video on the music scene, by Johannes Schweiger and Roland Rust. The perhaps over-elaborate but sharply striking piece by Doug Aitken of a portion of land in Namibia plays across three television monitors.

Scrappy snapshots by Richard Wentworth document little "still lifes" of material left, abandoned, in the streets around King's Cross: a hindsight vision of an abandoned Christmas tree among one of the many photographs tacked lightly to the wall. The huge poster by Luc Tuymans on a billboard outside can be caught or just as easily passed by. The gallery space itself appears deliberately unprepossessing and functional in order to suggest that artistic life can exist as much in literature, magazine and technology as in the anticipation of physical display. Cubbitt, 2-4 Caledonia St.

King's Cross, London NI (0171-278 8226) until Jan 4 ■ A HYBRID world of should peek i jurors

merged scientific imagination is suggested by Simon Granger's strange paintings of airborne birds or animals. The fully represented creatures hover illusionistically just above the painting surface in a strange shallow space. The outline is sharp and almost hard, the sickly pinks, blues and plastic greens have been rounded and highlighted to suggest a merging of flesh and feather. The eyes which reflect, very deliberately, those of a teddy bear stare out as the creatures fly forward.

The paintings have a wilful strangeness: in fact they are almost too strange, as if the invention of subject has outplayed any invention with paint. The heightened realist nature of this plastic imagery seems so tightly sealed as to hold still the breath of

imagination. Gasworks, 155 Vauxhall St, The Oval, London SE11 (0171-735 3445) until Jan 4

Rineke Dijkstra photographs free-standing figures in a straightforward and sympathetic manner. Her complicity with young people sets up a relationship, in turn, with the viewer. Her video work follows the same principle. this time to a synchronised beat. Dancers in clubs in Holland and England gyrate to music betore a white wall. People dance alone, a baremidriffed girl moves in perfect time to the beat.

The individual large colour photographs show people alone, beside the sea, the horizon line coming to just below the torso; vulnerable thin adolescents held in damp and awkward swimming costumes against the sky. Photographers Gallery, 5 Gt Newport St. London WC2

(0171-831 1772) until Jan 10 Pre-Raphaelite Women Artists at Manchester City Art Galleries (016) 236 5244) until Feb 22

SACHA CRADDOCK

Orchestra scores

ne advantage of reviving elderly produc-tions is that they probably have proper decor attached — there would be no question of Scottish Opera now being able to afford the three handsomely representa-tional sets designed by Peter Rice for Anthony Besch's 17-year-old staging of Puccini's melodrama. By today's standards it looks positively spend-thrift, especially the Castel Sant Angelo with its machinegun emplacements, search-lights and corrugated-iron

Ah yes, this is one of the earlier updatings: 1943, with the Allied invasion of Sicily substituting for Napoleon's of ltaly, and Camnia replacing Marengo. King Victor Emmanuel (authentically short) and Oueen Elena (authentically tall) attend the Te Deum, as does Mussolini (authentically bald). Scarpia and the Duce exchanging a significant glance at curtain-fall adds a certain frisson, and so does the perfectly timed entry into Sant'Andrea della Valle of the jack-booted Fascist police chief

and attendant thugs.
On the whole, though, Besch's direction is sober and their control, this is not

There is one slight drawback to the revival. Ian Storey (Cavaradossi) is a serious,

voice, but as yet an inexpres-sive actor. If you don't believe that he and Tosca are in the midst of a white-bot erotic affair, then the plot doesn't quite work; this pair, you feel, might have held hands in the back row of the cinema once or twice, no more. Elizabeth Byrne can't quite supply the charge on her own, but she has all the notes, mettlesome tone, and looks good in Rice's period frocks. Matthew Best's rangy, slightly stooped Scarpia has the look of a pasty-faced, thin-lipped spider — just the job — and sings strongly and with point.

What makes this more than solid, unstarrily-cast revival is Guido Ajmone-Marsan's conducting. There is no ques-tion of his just bashing through a well-known score: familiar phrases, instrumental colour, even rests are carefully weighed and delivered by an orchestra relishing their space in the Theatre

Royal's newly expanded pit It all sounded as fresh as if they were seeing their parts for the first time when rehearsals started, reminding us that, fail-safe old warhorse of a crowd-puller though Tosca may be, it is faultlessly written. A good evening - and the perfect antidote to Christmas.

RODNEY MILNES | a review of Debussy's songs



A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

among the 11 CDs available. The oldest, Herbert von Karajan's first version dating from 1955 on EMI, is a classic, with Elisabeth Schwarzkopf giving one of her best recorded performances as a haughtily flirtatious Rosalinde, Nicolai Gedda in his prime as Eisenstein, such expert stylists as Rita Streich and Erich Kunz in support, and the (then) young Philharmonia playing with infectious zip. But even though it was very well remastered in 1988, this is in mono, which may put it out of court for

eyes. A dramatic mane of

ebony hair increases the sense

must be contemplating its

significance rather than star-

ing at the viewer. Bunce, based

in Birmingham, was a devout

Christian. The sophisticated

interplay between the orna-

mental petals on the music-

maker's dress, and the flowers

burgeoning in a vase beyond.

promotes a feeling of spiritual

exaltation as well. It is a highly

its dull and insinid moments

By no means all these newly

uncovered women are artists

worth cherishing, and some

do little more than echo famil-

iar work by Pre-Raphaelite

men. But there are enough

impressive images on view to

justify the dedicated research

behind the show. From now

on, nobody will be able to

ignore these neglected women with such a wholesale disre-

gard for the truth.

The exhibition is not without

controlled performance.

ut the scene reflected

in the circular mirror

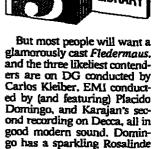
behind turns out to

be religious. She

of brazen confrontation.

The 1995 D'Oyly Carte ver-sion on Sony, in Alistair Beaton's lively and free English translation, is also something of a special case, but a nice memento for those who enjoyed the show on stage.

The budget-price recording on Naxos may lack "name" singers, but the cast has obviously worked together and there is a real "performance" feel to the set, which is very idiomatically conducted by Johannes Wildner and stylishly played by the Czecho-Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra of Bratislava



in Lucia Popp, a good Eisen-stein (Peter Seiffert) and Agnes Baltsa and Bernd Weikl in

support, but his reading is on the leisurely side for so lively a Karajan's cast is led by such stylists as Hilde Gueden and Waldemar Kmentt, sumptuously played by the Vienna Philharmonic, and just as sumptuously recorded. For me Carlos Kleiber is the best conductor - light-fingered, witty and fleet, with rubato perfectly judged. An excellent cast, though, is marred by a hideously unfunny falsettist as Orlofsky, which leads me to play safe and recommend the evenly cast Karajan Mark II (Decra 421 046-2. 2 CD.

 To order the recommended recording, with free delivery. please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 OBR or phone 0345 023 498: e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk ■ Building a Library returns on Dec 27 at 9am on Radio 3 with

£30.99).

more than lovers STRAUSS'S DIE FLEDERMAUS **OPERA** Reviewed by Rodney Milnes Tosca bviously with so popu-Glasgow BUILDING lar a work there are some tempting budget decent singer with ringing top notes and an expressive halfand mid-price bargains LIBRARY

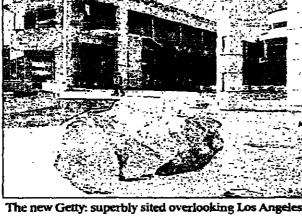
another vast expanse of marble leading to the museum's foyer. Richard Meier, who designed it all, calls the tram a "decompression zone". Here, a rare piece of compulsory public transport brings blissful relief from the noise and smog. and reminds you slowing down for art.
"This is just how the luture was supposed to be," Kurt Andersen wrote in The New Yorker.

world **9** ernism is like a Star Trek episode about Periclean Athens." Indeed, the Getty is a place of Roman stone opposite aluminium-clad research institutes. It has rustic grottos next to multimedia informa-

"Meier's highly

classicised mod-

Great pains have been taken not to let visitors get lost here in the bowels of another Louvre. No gallery is more than one remove from fresh air and a place to sit. Even so, the Getry is its own created world, and nowhere more so than in the Great Hall. Here parquet floors, stucco mouldings and rich fabrics are used to give the museum's unmatched hauf of 18th-century decorative art an authentic



The effect is of walking into

a period film set, and Meier hates it. A thoroughgoing Modernist, he refused to instal trimmings that clash with his starkly clean design. A French beaux arts expert called Thierry Despont was hired to do the iob, and the two have kept the art world agog with their protracted battles.

The upper-level galleries are Meier's clearest triumph. To show off the Getty's masterpieces in the natural light in which contemporaries saw them, he has put high, sloping roofs over traditional oblong viewing areas, capping the design with computer-controlled slats under enormous skylights. As the sun moves, the slats follow. Curators last week claimed this pale, diffuse light brings paintings alive as if expensively restored.

John Walsh, the museum's suave Bostonian director. called the Getty's collection "small, specialised and spotty when he took it over in 1983. It has since grown, thanks to a staggering \$4.5 billion endow ment, but Walsh admits he can never vie with Europe or New York for sheer volume. Most old pieces worth buying have been bought.

Instead he has concentrated on showing visitors a good time. In a city as self-conscious as Los Angeles a 110-acre monument to high culture in full view of the freeway-bound masses was bound to be controversial. Sure enough, it has been criticised as elitist and inaccessible. The truth is that entrance to

this palace is free bar a \$5 parking fee. It's true that it sits above the city, and thank goodness. As the movie mogul David Geffen recently observed, the sprawl below scarcely deserves it.

discreetly understated, unlike some one could mention, until the final moments that is, when even Tosca's suicidal leap is capped by spectacular pyrotechnics. Since the opera is in part about "little people" tangling with forces beyond

LAW

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ENDING EVIL 37

LAW REPORT 38

The appointment of a new First Junior Treasury Counsel, Common Law (the "Treasury Devil" or Treasury Junior does not normally receive much publicity. The Attorney-General's desion last month to appoint Philip Sales as successor to Stephen Richards (who has been made a High Court judge) attracted press attention because Mr Sales, primarily a commercial lawyer, is a member of the former chambers of the Lord Chancellor, Lord living of Lairg. The Solicitor-General, Lord Falconer of Thoroton, explained that Mr Sales was simply the best

lawyer for the job. It is one of the most important, and difficult, jobs in the system. The Treasury Devil is an independent barrister afflicted by what most of us go to the Bar to avoid: being answerable to one client. He is

Those given the devil of a job to do

briefed and paid (though not generously) for each advice to, or court appearance on behalf of, government departments. In theory, he is the "Attorney-General's Devil", the junior who researches what the Law Officers need to know. In practice, because the Law Officers are too busy to appear in court, the Treasury Junior has the vital task, as an independent outsider with access to senior civil servants and ministers, of assisting the Crown to

comply with the law.

The Treasury Devil need not be an experienced administrative lawyer. In his Hamlyn Lectures of 1990, Lord Woolf recalled that on his appointment as Treasury Junior in 1974, such was his "ignorance

of public law" that he needed of Sir William Anson, Warden to ask his predecessor. Gordon Slynn, what textbooks he should read. The appointment of good lawyers, whatever their previous area of expertise, ensures that the Treasury Devil normally has the best tunes in court

The importance of the post makes it inconceivable that any government would today follow the example of Sir Robert Finlay who, as Attor-ney-General in 1905, appointed his son, a junior barrister with four years' experience, to be junior counsel to the Inland Revenue Commissioners, Finlay's decision was much criticised, and his position further undermined when, soon after, he was a passenger in the car

of All Souls, who was stopped and successfully prosecuted for speeding.

The growth in public law

litigation and the consequent burdens of the job make it impossible for the modern Treasury Devil to follow the example of Sir Valentine Holmes, appointed to the post in 1935. The Dictionary of National Biography records that he performed the task "without any abatement of his private practice" as a libel specialist. Today, the Treasury Junior needs the assistance of a nanel of barristers who act for the Crown part-time as and when required.

It is hard work endeavour-

daily basis, the reasoning of government departments. As Sir John Donaldson, then Master of the Rolls, stated in his judgment in an immigration case in 1982, "the impartial observer asks Mr Simon Brown to explain how paragraph 70 of the rules is intended to operate, and Mr

Brown says that he will have to

Lord Woolf has written on the difficulties representing the Crown when Lord Denning was rewriting the law books and "setting about governirrepressible enthusiasm". Diplomacy is required. In a 1975 judgment, Lord Denning criticised Crown counsel, Roger

time", that if the court intervened, "it would not be long before the powers of the court would be called in question". Lord Denning commented that he was prepared to accept that this was "not said seriously, but only a piece of advocate's licence".

Early in the 19th century,

take instructions". Charles Abbott was a Treasury Devil described by Campbell in his Lives of the Chief Justices as having "the most marvellous inaptitude for the functions of an advocate". He almost always lost his cases, partly because of "his power of discrimination and soundness of understanding", which enabled him to appreciate the

DAVID

sides, and "afterwards fitted him so well for being a judge". The example of Abbott profession of what has been

PANNICK QC

upon by recent holders of the office. All advocates have to reconcile their duties to their client with their duties to the court, and with their conscience. The Treasury Junior has a specific responsibility, as important in the age of the contingency fee as ever, to remind the Government that there are steps it cannot take. however large its parliamentary majority, and that there are occasions when it should accept legal defeat.

For the past six years, Stephen Richards has maintained the values and the independence of his office while serving a Conservative government which was not always eager to listen to legal advice. All members of the Bar will wish Mr Sales well as his successor.

• The author is a practising barrister and Fellow of All Souls

Experts have been debating juries' ability to understand fraud cases and whether to look at how they reach verdicts. Frances Gibb reports

Should we take a peek inside the iurors' room?

sters want to look again at whether juries should be scrapped for complex fraud cases. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, defends the jury system. But there is a case, he says, for re-examining trial by jury in complex fraud cases.

The alternative, proposed by Lord Roskill in his committee's report on fraud in 1986, suggested that such cases would be better tried by a judge, perhaps sitting with two specialist assessors. The proposal did not find favour, but the acquittal of the Maxwell brothers has reopened the

Last week 250 judges, lawyers. police and government 1981 - is linked to the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, and organised by the British Academy of Forensic Sciences with sponsorship from the Criminal Bar and Administrative Law Bar Associations, and the Law Society.

Lord Bingham has expressed his own views on the subject. He told a press conference last year that the jury "is

uries are on trial. Mini- and always has been regarded as one of the great safety valves that prevents the State from behaving in an oppressive way". But he added that he had favoured Lord Roskill's proposal for fraud trials, although he believed that the public was still unlikely to support it. Lord Bingham also agreed with lifting the hid a little on how juries do their

> anonymous research". The question of research whether there should be jury rewould be search - banned under the Conthe death tempt of Court.Act plex fraud. Until it is known how they

work, through "serious, objective and

operate, and whether they find such trials sors, the public might not have difficult, it is argued that no confidence in the outcome. If case can be made for their abolition. The fears of many were voiced by David Calvert-Smith. QC, who said research would "just be ammunition for those who want to get rid of juries". Clear battle lines have al-

QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, made a passionate defence in his paper for juries to remain. Trials by judge, or with assessors, might be more efficient, but would not be cheaper or quicker. They would always be pressed "by insistence or flattery" into thinking they could cope with all the issues.

The change, he added, would be a "fundamental mistake". Complexity was no justification for removing juries from certain cases. "All complex issues can be made simple... That is the task of the judge

trial danger that under trial by judge, with an influential or political per-son was on trial, the panel might accruit, and rightly so. "But is it ever going to be accepted by the public at large? I cannot think of a more

devastating way of undermin-

Other jury supporters artrial. Sir John Smith, Nottingham University's Emeritus Professor of Law, believed that secrecy was essential to preserving the jury as an institution. Perhaps it was a case where ignorance was bliss. He said: "I recognise that it is highly desirable that we should know whether these assumptions [about jury behaviourl are well founded or not. But I fear that there is a price to be paid, namely the revelation that many cases are decided in consequence of material irregularities in the jury room, with consequent

"If we are to keep such trials, and if there is an overwhelm ing sentiment in favour of doing so, it is perhaps better not to know."

undermining of public confi-

dence in jury trial.

But there was also a strong view, Anthony Heaton-Armstrong, the organiser, says, that jury research could be done without destroying the institution of the jury itself. Michael Zander, QC. Professor of Law at the London School of Economics, and a fervent believer



Jurors hear a lawver present his client's case in a scene from Verdict, a BBC programme about the jury system

in juries, says that while such research would have to be conducted with extreme care, it could be done.

One approach would be to monitor the deliberations on audio-recording, supplemented by interviews or questionnaires. Professor Zander said

going on in New Zealand.

The findings of jury research would not vindicate every verdict. There would certainly be cases where the jury had for some reason "got it wrong", in the sense that the

an inquiry into the impact of of the evidence; or they decid-media publicity on juries, is of the evidence; or they decid-ed "out of prejudice or stupidity." But the jury system could withstand that. In 1981, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, later Lord Chancellor, said: "The jury system, great institution

that it is, surely can stand up

to properly conducted re-

Marylebone, another Lord Chancellor, took the same

Jury research would need legislation. But it might be an acceptable first step before dismantling juries for complex fraud cases when the evidence has not fully

Helping Lord Irvine

GARRY HART is making a large financial sacrifice to help out his old friend Lord Irvine of Lairg as a special adviser in the Lord Chancellor's Department on a salary of £73,000. But when he quits his post

as a senior partner with Herbert Smith, his family will not be plunged into penury — his second wife. Valerie Davies, is a big earner in her role as head of Norton Rose's insolvency litigation de-We want our tees

COMPETITION between the Bar and solicitors is hotting up. Angry young barristers are accusing solicitors of "cynically exploiting" their junior status by deliberately holding back payments for advocacy work in magistrates' courts. The Bar Council's young barristers' committee has told

the Bar Council that fees are being paid slowly, if at all, by "a number of firms". What's more, the committee has complained that some chambers are reluctant to pursue fees owed to their younger tenants for fear that the guilty firms will retaliate by ceasing to give their better

ants in the chambers. The Bar Council has posted a warning in its newsletter

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work to the more senior ten-



of jury

Bar News reminding heads of chambers that deliberately not collecting fees or not chasing them vigorously enough are disciplinary offences.

Altogether, aaah

A NEW trend among law firms this year: they are abandoning Christmas cards. Nicholas Graham & Jones have decided to put the money instead into Crisis at Christ-mas, and has organised a programme of activities to help the charity for the homeless, including a rota of helpers to work on the conversion of a warehouse into a Christmas shelter. Another firm, Berwin Leighton is donating its Christmas card account to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, where it will be spent on special trolleys to move child-

And judges last week mixed with court staff and civil servants for a special carol concert organised by Allen & Overy at the Royal Courts of Justice to raise money for the Citizens Advice Bureau based in the building. About £500 was collected, and pledges have yet to come in.

> Rights winners

LORD LESTER of Herne Hill Human Rights Lawyer of 1997. The award, organised by Lib-erty in association with the Law Society Gazette, was made to Lord Lester for his role in pressing for human rights legislation — an ambition re-alised this year with the Human Rights Bill. A second honour, the Human Rights Award, went to Stonewall the gay and lesbian

Meanwhile, at the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors. staff struggling with backlogs and rising workloads have been offered gift vouchers to close the files on as many complaints as possible in time for

● Jonathan Evans, the former DTI Corporate Affairs Minister, has been appointed director of insurance by the London office of Eversheds. Before his time in government, he was managing part-ner in the law firm Leo Abse &

Profitable gap LONDON firms often open

regional offices. But Thomas Eggar Verrall Bowles, a West Sussex law firm, is bucking the trend and opening a branch of Thesis, its investment advice arm, in London. Anthony Wands, Thesis's

managing director and chief investment officer, sees a gap in the market advising private

Netting business A LAWYER is setting up his

own Internet law practice. Richard Kemp, a specialist in information technology and intellectual property law, has set up Kemp & Co to "capitalise on the huge growth in demand for tailored advice on computerrelated, information and

STEUART & FRANCIS

SCRIVENOR

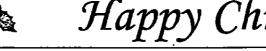
LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

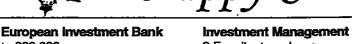


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Christmas is a natural 'pause' to contemplate the direction your career will take in the New Year. Is partnership really what you aspire to? Are there more interesting and fulfilling roles in-house? Should you look at the options available to you? More often than not candidates are surprised by the variety of opportunities which exist in banking/finance. If you would welcome the chance to talk to us on a fact finding basis we will be delighted to give you constructive career advice.

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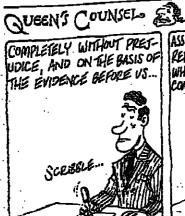
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work at the London office of this top Scottish firm, which is becoming renowned for its involvement in many high-profile matters. A lawyer with **IP LITIGATION** To £35,000

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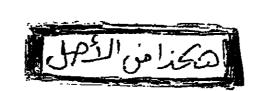
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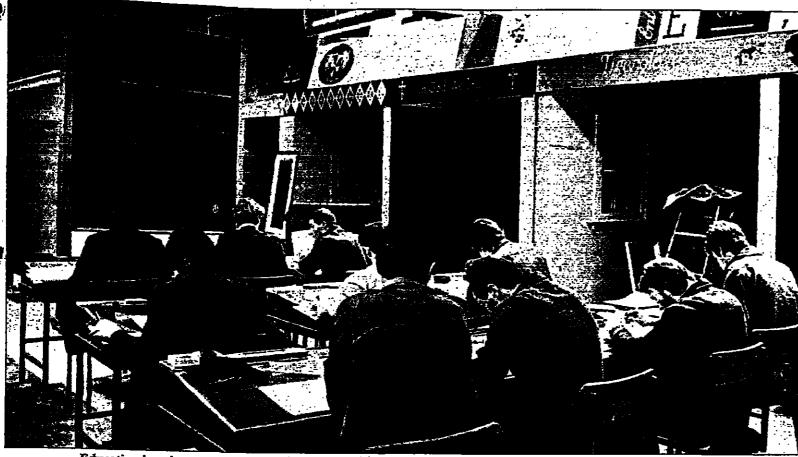
with quality of life.

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Education in prisons could be used to lessen a sentence if a prisoner were to try to gain an educational qualification

Can we eliminate evil?

work in police stations and represent people who have been arrested. Mostly those arrests lead to interviews on tape-recorders, and the arrested person has a right to have a solicitor or a legal representative present to advise him or her on the evidence, and what the best course of action is when it comes to answering questions.

Most criminals are simple and non-threatening when it comes to a discussion with the only friendly face they have seen in custody. But I do encounter evil, and solicitors or legal representatives who tell you that they have not are either not getting much work or are not perceptive.

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Many people see prison as the last stop for the criminal on the train of justice. The criminal has been arrested, represented in court, had a chance to put his or her side of the story to a judge and jury, been found guilty and will now face the punishment that society has deemed necessary.

Education should serve a rehabilitative purpose for the inmates of prisons, says Joel Parkes

Criminologists and legal academics all agree that sentencpurpose. It should reflect society's revulsion of the crime committed and it should help to protect society from a person who is dangerous. The act of putting people in prison should also be guided by a rehabilitative purpose. To turn someone out on the street after years of harsh social condi-tioning and unhealthy peer pressure without adequate rehabilitation cannot be a sensible way in which to address

the social root of crime. But that is what the British penal system does. The nature of the educational services offered in the prison system today can only be described as shambolic. Of the estimated prison population of 56,000 in the UK, there are only some 250 immates studying for a not exist?

degree qualification. They are forced to take their degrees via the Open University. This is because the prison system of education is set up so that there is no standardisation of services or educational materials from one prison to the next, and the Open University is the best option for the inmate who gets moved between prisons during a custodial sentence.

There are educational ser-

vices at prisons that provide basic skills guided by the national core curriculum, but their implementation is left to the prison governors. How can that possibly accommodate the inmate who, perhaps for the first time in his life, is on the road to self-improvement through study, only to have his course cut short when he is transferred to a prison where the programme does

and numeracy skills to university-level degree qualifica-

Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, is receptive to this idea. "I am strongly in favour of providing as much education as is practicable in prisons," he says. "I would support prisoners being able to earn remission by educational achievements."

For this to work, there must be an acceptance of the validity of social intervention. Social intervention is a broad concept, but it is a key component of the ever-developing world of criminologi-

cal theory. We can either lock prisoners up and forget about them or we can make the real effort to change them when we have them in custody. Almost all prisoners eventually get back on the streets. Is it really such a hard decision? If they were given a chance to be educated I think that they would be less likely to reoffend. Such a move seems to make perfect sense.

Solicitors go for the hard sell

Frances Gibb attends a seminar explaining how lawyers can best compete for work

olicitors are now sales-They have to be, to survive. But how, and where, should they sell their wares? Last week the American Chamber of Commerce held a top-level seminar for 80 lawyers from City and American law firms to debate how they can best compete for work. Joe Macrae, of ZMB, the legal recruitment consultants who sponsored the event, said: The market is now fiercely competitive."

American law firms are thrusting into the City of London, a crucial gateway to Europe. And City law firms are seeking to expand, probably through mergers, in the

Law firms still lag behind accountants in how they market themselves. But they have changed their approach dramatically from ten years ago. Dr Irwin Stelzer, of Irwin Stelzer Associates, said that solicitors had evolved from the idea that they were professionals who did not sell and did not carry a business card through to we do have a brochure', and from there to taking part in beauty con-

tests" (to pitch for work). But marketing was still bigger business in America, where law firms spent some 3 per cent of gross fees on it compared with 1.5 per cent among City law firms.

Buyers of legal services, though, hold the key; and for the corporate/commercial law firms, the buyers - or clients -- are other lawvers. in-house lawyers in large companies. Deanna Bates, head of business and legal affairs at BSkyB (in which News International, owner of The Times, has a 40 per cent stake), told the conference that in-house lawyers increasingly handled more business themselves. So when they went outside, they wanted lawyers for expertise

such as "litigation, specialist competition law advice". BSkyB did not go particu-larly to "media" firms, she said; rather it sought the expertise of an individual. Her checklist of what to look

for in a firm or lawyer were: accessibility ("I speak to Charles Plant/Herbert Smith every week); ability to do the job quickly; a "can-do" attitude — "we want to know how to do the deal, not whether we should do it"; ability to present the legal

'I would rather pay double and have the job well done'

advice to in-house management convincingly; and finally the "guts to stand up to the client"— "We don't want someone who says — 'a hostile takeover bid for the BBC? What a good idea!" "
Fees, which are increas-

ingly trimmed to meet client demands, were not a deterrent if the ability was there. she added. "I'd rather pay double and have the job well done, than half and have to finish it myself."

Above all, it was "brainpower" they sought, with the ability to think strategically in new areas.

On the downside, lawyers scored no marks for laziness. bluffing, refusing to admit previous advice was wrong. charging for "phantom para-legals" or bringing along trainees who took notes which did not resemble what happened at the meeting. From the law firms' per-

spective, Anthony Williams, managing partner-elect of

Clifford Chance, confirmed that the boot was on the client's foot, "We must look at things from the client's perspective and not our own. And we must also look at the way a product is delivered. Clients say they want commercial, proactive, hands-on advice." They did not want a 20-page treatise which left them asking "... and?"
Above all, the approach

had to be tailored to the client, he said. Some wanted to be involved; others left the lawyers to get on with it. "We must provide a package for the client suitable for the way they operate and look more intelligently at how we price our services." The key, he added, was understanding the client's own business. Lawyers should visit their clients - "How you can form a relationship with people you only ever see in your office surprises me."

It is all a far cry from the high street law firm. Yet one common thread emerged: the need to put the client first or, in the jargon, "client care". More and more firms are doing "client audits".

Julia Chain, managing partner of Garrett's, the legal arm of Arthur Andersen, said the firm had found it useful to send someone (not the partner doing the work) out to the client to make sure they were satisfied. Likewise, John Shenefield, chairman of Morgan Lewis and Bockius, a 900-lawyer American firm rapidly expanding worldwide, said feedback was regularly sought from

His firm had led the quiet life for about 25 years. They had not been as aggressive and creative as they could have been. But the market was shifting. Clients in London were more ready to make changes, "London is at the very epicentre. The opportunities are there if you are willing to grasp them."

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If we are so concerned with

preventing and eliminating crime, why have we not gone

to the root of the problem?

Why have there been no steps

taken to re-educate prisoners?

Is the concept of rehabilitation

looked on as a liberalist anath-

ema? Can anyone seriously

believe that prisons, referred

to as the "University of Crime"

by many police officers, are

places that teach proper social

ut what of the prisoner

B who does not want to accept education in

prison, even if offered? One

possible solution is offering the prisoner the option of

studying for an educational

qualification as a condition for

a lesser sentence. The educa-

tional qualifications could be

as varied as the prisoners,

from lessons in basic literacy

significant providers of trade finance and It seeks a lawyer (3 years'+ pge) to join a specialised team within the legal department providing day-to-day transactional support and advice to the debt capital markets desks. The bank's emerging markets business is also transacted out of London and this will form a significant part of the workload, including complex structured products. The role entails all aspects of a proposed trade/structure and will offer the opportunity for some travel.

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Loss not in parties' contemplation

Total Transport Corporation v Arcadia Petroleum Ltd Before Lord Justice Staughton.

Lord Justice Auld and Sir John [Judgment November 18]

A clause in a charterparty providing for "loss suffered by charterers due to failure to comply fully with charterers' wayage instructions" to he the responsibility of the shipowner did not entitle the charterers to recover loss which was not in the reasonable contemplation of the

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by the charterers. Arcadia Petroleum Ltd. against the decision of Mr Justice Rix (1990) 2 Linyd's Rep 408) to set uside an arhitration award on an Asbatankvoy form of \$681,934.05 plus interest at 5.5 per cent awarded to Total Transport Corporation, the disponent owners of the ship. Eurus.

Mr Simon Rainey for the charterers: Mr Richard Jacobs for the shipowners.

LORD STAUGHTON said that clause 36 was the critical clause and pro-vided: "Owners shall be responsible for any time, costs delays or loss suffered by charterers due to failure to comply fully with charterers' voyage instructions." There then followed a deletion and the clause continued: "Provided

cordance with the charterparty and custom of the trade specified in voyage orders".

The charterers' case was that the owners, in breach of contract, did not comply with the instructions which the charterers gave. Their loss was claimed either as damages or as money payable under a intractual indemnity.

The claim for damages failed but the one for indemnity succeeded. The claim for damages was not renewed either before Mr Justice Rix or the Court of Appeal.

On January 23, 1992 the charterers nominated the Eurus to lift a cargo under a supply contract with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation for loading between January 29 and 31, with an estimated time of arrival of January 31 at the port of Forcados. On January 23 the Nigerian

Corporation announced their prices for February which were ower than the January prices and so it was in the interest of the charterers that the vessel should not complete loading before Feb-

In the afternoon of January 31 a message reached the owners from the charterers, asking the owners to slow down the loading in order to ensure that the vessel received a was no suggestion at that stage that the critical time was anything other than 0001hr on February 1. The master then advised that he expected to complete loading at

Neither he nor the owners had any reason to suppose that it was necessary to prolong the loading, if he could, until later that morning.

There was, however, a rule of the Department of Petroleum Resources in Lagos that if loading was completed prior to Sam on the first day of a new month, the bill of lading was to be dated the last day of the old month.

The rule had been in force for some eighteen or twenty years and was designed to enable the department to carry out an audit stock at end of each month without ng so outside working hours. The supply contract between the charterers and the Nigerian Corporation was governed by Nigerian law. The charterparty, how ver, was governed by English

The arbitrators found that, if the vessel had presented herself for loading at 1100hr on January 31. then loading would have extend beyond 0800hr on February 1. Is would have then followed that

the charterers would have had to pay the lower, February price. In the event, they were obliged to pay the January price, which cost them the additional sum of \$681,934.05. Neither the charterers nor the owners knew about the 8am rule. The arbitrators held that the existence of the Sam rule was not

an effective or intervening cause of

the charterers' loss and that the cause of the loss was the master's

failure to comply with the charterers' instructions.

The case for the charterers was that clause 36 in its role as an indemnity clause required proof that the loss was caused by failure to obey the charterers' orders, but nor that the loss should be within the reasonable contemplation of the nurties.

fences charged in the indictment The judge treated that part of the case as raising two questions:

I Was clause 36 an indemnity 2 If it was an indemnity provision, was the clause confined to reason-

ably forseeable loss? His Lordship preferred to treat the problem as one question of interpretation of the contract: did the clause provide that the charterers could recover even if the loss suffered was not within the reasonable contemplation of the parties?
In his Lordship's judgment, it

was not the intention of the parties to provide, by clause 36, that a particular kind of breach of coniract by the owners should attract liability even for unforseeable consequences, while in the case of all other breaches of contract the ordinary rule of remoteness would apply.

His Lordship would therefore uphold the decision of Mr Justice

Lord Justice Auld agreed and Sir John Balcombe delivered a concur-

ring judgment. Solicitors: Clifford Chance, Holman Fenwick & Willan.

Court's jurisdiction to extend time

Finnegan v Parkside Health Authority

Before Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Mantell [Judgment November 20] Absence of good reason for delay was not sufficient reason for the court to refuse to exercise its

discretion to extend time for appeal under Order 3, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Even where no good reason for delay was forthcoming, prejudice could be a relevant consideration. The Court of Appeal so held

allowing an appeal by the plaintiff. Linda Finnegan, from the dismissal by Judge Taylor, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division on October 14, 1996, of her application for leave to appeal out of time against the striking out for want of prosecution of her action for negligence against Parkside Health Authority.

Mr Richard Mawrey QC and Mr Mark Twomey for Mrs Finnegan; Miss Fiona Neale for the health authority. LORD JUSTICE HIRST said Mrs Finnegan's claim arose from

an operation at the defendants hospital in February 1989. The writhad been issued on February 26. 1992, two days before the expiry of the limitation period. After some preliminary steps, the case had gone to sleep until February 16. 1996, when her solicitors had served a notice of intention to

On July 12, 1996, the master had struck out the case on the defen-dants' application and the plaintiff had served notice of appeal o2 days later on September 12, 1996, 57 days late. Her application for leave to appeal out of time had been dismissed by Judge Taylor.

Her solicitors had given rather and September, but had given no explanation why the notice of appeal had not been served within the five-day limit or for anything that had gone wrong before the end of July.

The judge had considered three Court of Appeal authorities: Costellow v Somerset County Council (1993) | All ER 952): Revici v Prentice Hall (1969) | WLR 157) and Savill v Southend Health Authority ([1995] | WLR 1254). He had concluded that while in Costellow stress was laid on the

importance of prejudice, he felt

different approach in Revici and Savill and that in the absence of any explanation of the delay during the crucial period, there was no material before the court on which t could exercise its discretion in the plaintiff's favour, so that any question of prejudice, even if

> The court had to decide whether there was a conflict between the two lines of authority.

minimal or non-existent, was

His Lordship reviewed the authorities and referred to Mortgage Corporation v Sandoes (The Times December 27, 1996), decided six weeks after the instant case, in which the Court of Appeal had expressly rejected the argument that the absence of good reason was always and in itself sufficient to justify the court in refusing exercise its discretion, and held that the true position was that once a party was in default it was for him to satisfy the court that discretion should none the less be exercised in his favour, for which purpose he could rely on any

relevant circumstances In his Lordship's judgment, the starting point was Order 3, rule 5 which explicitly conferred the wid-

ecord at a leading US law

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est measure of discretion in applications for extension of time. Costellow was fully in line with that philosophy and had explicitly disapproved of a rigid mechanistic

approach, rejecting the contention that the application for extension should be heard first, and that applicant failed to show good reason for the procedural default. Any doubt about the strength and breadth of the guidance given in Costellow had been laid to rest by Mortgage Corporation v Sandoes.

It was impossible to reconcile Savill with those two cases. The judge had been in error in entirely disregarding prejudice. However, each application had to be judged on its facts and where

as in the instant case there was considerable delay with no explanation of the critical period, the court would apply guidelines laid down in Mortgage Corpora-tion v Sandoes, the first of which stressed that the rules were to be observed. The case would be remitted to the Queen's Bench Division for reconsideration.

Lord Justice Mantell agreed. Solicitors: Zelin & Zelin. Reechcroft Stanleys.

Regina v Roberts and Others Before Lord Justice Phillips. Mr Justice Jowitt and Sir Patrick Russell

Judgment November 20 It was important to set out proper particulars of the offence or of-

In a case of conspiracy to commit criminal damage contrary to section 1(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977, if the prosecution case was that the conspiracy embraced an aggravated form of criminal damage, it was not sufficient for the indictment to charge criminal damage simpliciter and for the prosecution to rely on the particularisation contained in an opening note circulated to the defence before the trial began.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held when allowing appeals by Martin Stanley Roberts, Jonathon Taylor and Kevin Chapman and quashing their convictions, on March 21, 1997 at Lewes Crown Court Under Richard Brown and a juryl of conspiracy to commit criminal damage contrary to section I(I) of the 1977 Act, on which Roberts was sentenced to six. Taylor to four and Chapman to two years imprisonment.

Mr John Aspinall, QC and Mr C. F. E. De Havas for Roberts; Mr Jeremy Gold, who did not appear at trial, for Taylor, Mr Martin Hurst for Chapman, all counsel assigned by the Registrar of Crim-inal Appeals: Mr Richard Cherrill and Mr Adrian Chaplin for the

LORD JUSTICE PHILLIPS, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that in late 1994 Shoreham was chosen as a port for the export of live yeal calves. That trade was abhorrent to many who were concerned for animal

Roberts founded an organisation called "Campaign against live freight" known as CALF. The other appellants were committee members of that organisation.

The prosecution case was that within CALF there were some. including the appellants, who conspired to carry our a campaign of criminal damage against those involved in the export of live freight. Instances of criminal damage that had occurred were relied upon by the Crown as being the product of that conspiracy.

The appellants had attacked the

form of the indictment in a number of ways, including submitting that the indictment alleged an offence of conspiracy to cause criminal one of the aggravated forms and that most of the prosecution case had been devoted to establishing a case of arson in circumstances involving at least recklessness as to endangering human life; such prejudicial It was apparent that the judge

had sentenced the appellants on the basis that they had conspired to commit criminal damage, aggravated both because it took the form of arson and because it involved recklessness as to

whether it would endanger life. Section I of the Criminal Damage Act 1971 created a number of offences. They were: criminal damage simpliciter, criminal damage with intent to endanger life or reckless in that regard, arson, and or reckless in that regard.

The case that the Crown had advanced, and that the judge had permitted the Crown to advance was that the appellants had agreed that a course of conduct should be pursued that embraced all of the damage other than arson that involved risk to life. If a single count charged a

conspiracy in relation to the com-mission of more than one offence, each offence probably constituted an essential element of the conspiracy so that, unless the Crown proved that the conspiracy extended to all the offences alleged, the charge would not be made out. It was quite plain that, as the

maximum sentence was governed by that which attached to the offence that carried the longest

it was argued for the prosecution that the indicament should be read subject to the particularisation of the Crown's case provided in its opening note, which was circulated to defence counsel before the trial began. Had the trial proceeded on the

basis that the jury could only convict if they were satisfied that the conspiracy embraced the ag-gravated versions of the offence to which the opening note referred, it might have followed that deficiencies in the indicament itself were mere technicalities, which should not invalidate the verdicts.

That, however, was far from the se and their Lordships would in any event denigrate any trend that diluted the importance of setting out proper particulars of the offence or offences charged in the indicament itself.

The prosecution allegation that the conspiracy had embraced an aggravated form of criminal damage provided the focus of the trial. approach of the judge was that the indictment required the jury to return a guilty verdict provided that they were satisfied that the conspiracy embraced any lorm of criminal damage.

Once that was proved, it was for him to decide whether and in what respect a conspiracy to perform an aggravated form of the offence had en made out and to sentence on Accordingly the jury were never

ember 16 1997

Court of Appeal

Particulars must be in indictment

Fina v Roberts and Others
re Lord Justice Phillips. Mr
re Lord Justice Phillips. Mr
re Lord Justice Phillips. Mr
re Lord Justice Phillips. Mr course of conduct that intended in endanger life or was reckles; in that regard. The judge had arrogated to himself decisions that

were of the most significance in the in some cases it was better that the judge be left to assess the degree of involvement of the various participants in a trial than that there should be a risk of confusing the jury by a profusion of counts designed to achieve that end.

However, such an approache could not be appropriate in a conspiracy that involved different offences subject to different mandmum penalties.

For those reasons the procedure adopted was fatally flawed, it would not be appropriate to uphold the verdicts on the basis that they related to a conspiracy w commit criminal damage simplicater and to attempt to adjust the sentences wrongly imposed on the basis of guilt of the aggravated

The length of trial and the issues explored at it were manifestly inappropriate for a trial on a charge of conspiracy to commi criminal damage simpliciter, whether or not it was arguable that evidence in relation to the ag-gravated offences could be relevant to such a charge. The convictions would be quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution

Revelations to newspapers do not constitute molestation

C v C (Non-molestation order: Jurisdiction)

Before Sir Stephen Brown, [Judgment November II]

Although there was no legal delinition of "molestation" for the purposes of the Family Law Act 1996 there had to be some conduct which clearly harassed and affected the applicant to such a degree that the intervention of the

court was justified. Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, so held when dismissing the husband's application for a non-molestation order under section 42(1)(a) of the Family Law Act 1996 by which he sought to prevent his former wife from giving further information to newspaper reporters which would perpetuate the publication of arti-

cles which were offensive to him. The judgment was delivered in chambers and is reported by leave

Mr Richard Todd for the hus-

band: Mr John Elvidge for the THE PRESIDENT said that the

parties had been married but had obtained a divorce in September

In October two articles detailing the former wife's complaints about her husband appeared in the press and the husband attempted to restrain the wife from providing further information to the news papers by applying for a nondestation order under section 42

of the 1966 Act. Although it was accepted that there had been no direct threat or nor any indirect interference by telephone or letter, he contended that her conduct in supplying newspaper reporters with revela-tions which resulted in the publication of the offending articles justified the making of a non-

olestation order. His Lordship said that, although there was no legal definition of molestation, the word implied some quite deliberate conduct which was aimed at a high degree of harassment of the other party sufficient to call for the intervention of the court

Furthermore, it was significant that section 42 was to be found in Part IV of the 1996 Act which was concerned with the general topic of domestic violence and that section 42(5) required the court to have regard to all the circumstances including the need to secure the health, safety and wellbeing of the applicant in deciding whether to

exercise its powers. Here the conduct complained of concerned alleged revelations by the former wife of what she regarded as her former husband's misbehaviour.

This seemed to be more a misconceived endeavour to seek to impose what might be called a gagging order.

It came nowhere near molestation as envisaged by section 42 of the 1996 Act.

Solicitors: Mills & Reeve, Norwich; Bennett Taylor Tyrrell.

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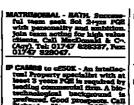
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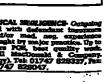
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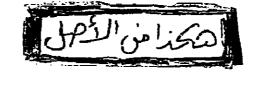
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dictmen Owner managers fear effect of festive break

By RODNEY HOBSON

taking work home this Christmas while others will be forced to close down for up to a fortnight against

Lloyds TSB reckons that half of all small business owners have got too much to do to afford the luxury

It pays to relax at Christmas

LLOYDS TSB asked Cary Cooper, Professor of Organisational Psychology at the Manchester School of Management, for advice on relaxing during the holiday.

☐ Keep a healthy balance between work and play. Taking a break makes you feel much more alert, reduces stress levels and helps you to think more clearly.

☐ Remember that your in-tray will always be full. When you realise you may never completely empty it, work will become more manageable. ☐ Concentrate on what is essential

and complete less important tasks only when you really need to. Don't try to tackle everything at once.

☐ Set business goals for 1998.

Deciding on your goals can help to reduce worries over Christmas. spapers da ☐ Don't slump in front of the TV. Fill your spare time with interesting

and absorbing pursuits. ☐ If you must take work home, allocate a period when you can concentrate fully.

destation

MANY owner managers will be of a complete rest. They fear competitors will snatch trade if

One company in three reckons that Christmas is the most stressful period of the year. Not surprisingly, retailers are worst affected. The majority say they cannot take more than two days off.

John Spence, managing director of business banking at Lloyds TSB, sympathises: "Small businesses face extra pressures in the run-up to Christmas. With tight deadlines to meet and the prospect of not getting paid until after the new year, it's no surprise that many can't get work off their minds."

In contrast, Barclays Bank claims that about half of all companies will take a complete break between Christmas and the new year and some will shut for two weeks.

A survey of medium-sized companies found that 55 per cent believed that the Christmas holiday was getting longer and 69 per cent complained that the seasonal break had an adverse effect on their

stores without incurring national

insurance. The exemption is due to

be ended in April 1999.

Almost a quarter of firms said they would have to shut down against their wishes because their customers were closed. ☐ This year and next will be the last chance for firms to give staff retail vouchers for high street

> Half the company's output goes to America. Singapore, Japan,

Jack springs a surprise

AFTER studying display and design in London, Andrew Hinks became a window dresser. Aged 22, he was stuck; working for Liberty meant, in his profession, there was nowhere

Or so he thought. When requests to buy a Jack-in-the-box he had made for a window display started flooding in, he began making them from home. Twenty years later, Mr Hinks heads the only such compány in Britain, with an annual turnover of £250,000.

In 1978 Liberty asked him to use its fabrics for an elaborate toythemed display. It encouraged him to make more Jacks in his spare time, to be sold in the store's scarves department. Four years later, he gave up his job, set up a stall in Covent Garden, and did nothing but make the old-fashioned toy, managing to complete about 20 a day.

From Jack in The Box, his company in Islington, North London, he now makes about 30,000 of the hand-made toys a year. Employing six people since he went into mass production five years ago. Mr Hinks, 41, has only recently started to make a respectable profit. Turnover in the first year was

"It has been a lot of hard work with not much financial reward until the last couple of years," he said. "You have to make a lot of lacks, and we are only just getting there now.'



Andrew Hinks, with Jacks of his trade, makes 30,000 a year. "We have done well, in a small way."

Germany and Hong Kong, a particularly good customer during the handover celebrations. Mr Hinks, who has been almost entirey self-financed, also supplies Pollocks Toy Museum and has done a number of commissions, including a glittery Jack for The Shooting Party, the film, and a 5ft version for

As well as Liberty in this country, Mr Hinks's Jack-in-the-boxes are on sale at Hamleys, Harrods, John

a Rumbelows promotion.

Lewis, Fortnum & Mason, and Daisy and Tom. He has also made a fairy-in-the-box, selling in the Royal Academy shop to promote the Victorian fairy painting exhibition, which will become part of his There is a great interest in main collection next year. nostaleia

The first Jack-in-the-box is believed to have been made in 1810, but they did not become commonplace until after the Industrial Revolution, when springs were mass-produced. Retailing at be-

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tween £11.95 and £29.95, the 42 varieties of Jacks he produces have never been more popular, Mr Hinks said. "The Barbie business is so saturated, people are looking for something a little different,

"It is not exactly how I planned my life, but the business is now as big as I want it to get and I am pleased it has been a success. We have done well, in a small way."

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A lack of skilled workers is now the single most important problem for firms with more than 25 employees, according to the latest NatWest Bank/Small Business Research Trust report. The shortage is worse than at any time since 1989. Smaller businesses still rate low turnover as their greatest worry, although the proportion citing difficulty in recruiting the right staff has risen from I per cent to Il per cent over the past five

□ Barclays Bank is sending questionnaires to its business customers to assess the size of the millennium computer timebomb and what action is being taken.

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Do you have the skill to choose a

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510,000 prize is up to their present allocation. for grabs for the From now on, all new teams winner of the brandwill receive 20 transfers for the duration of the season. Postal new FA Cup league. entries must be received by Tuesday December 30 and telephone entries by 10am on a league within the ITF. Entrants to ITF will automatically score points in the Saturday January 3 in order to FA Cup league when the score points from the beginplayers in their team compete in the FA/Tennents Cup ning of the FA Cup league rounds. From January 3, English Premiership players will competition. Entrants must be 18 years or over.

begin the knockout and January 24 sees the start of the Tennents Cup round involving Scottish premier division This is your chance to choose a team specifically for the FA Cup league. All players start scoring when the cup rounds involving English and Scottish premier divisions begin. All teams will be alloleagues - students' or wom-

Any team in the ITF before 12 noon last Saturday received (student's and women 20 extra transfers in addition carry monthly prizes.

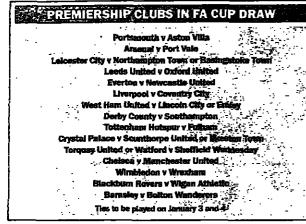
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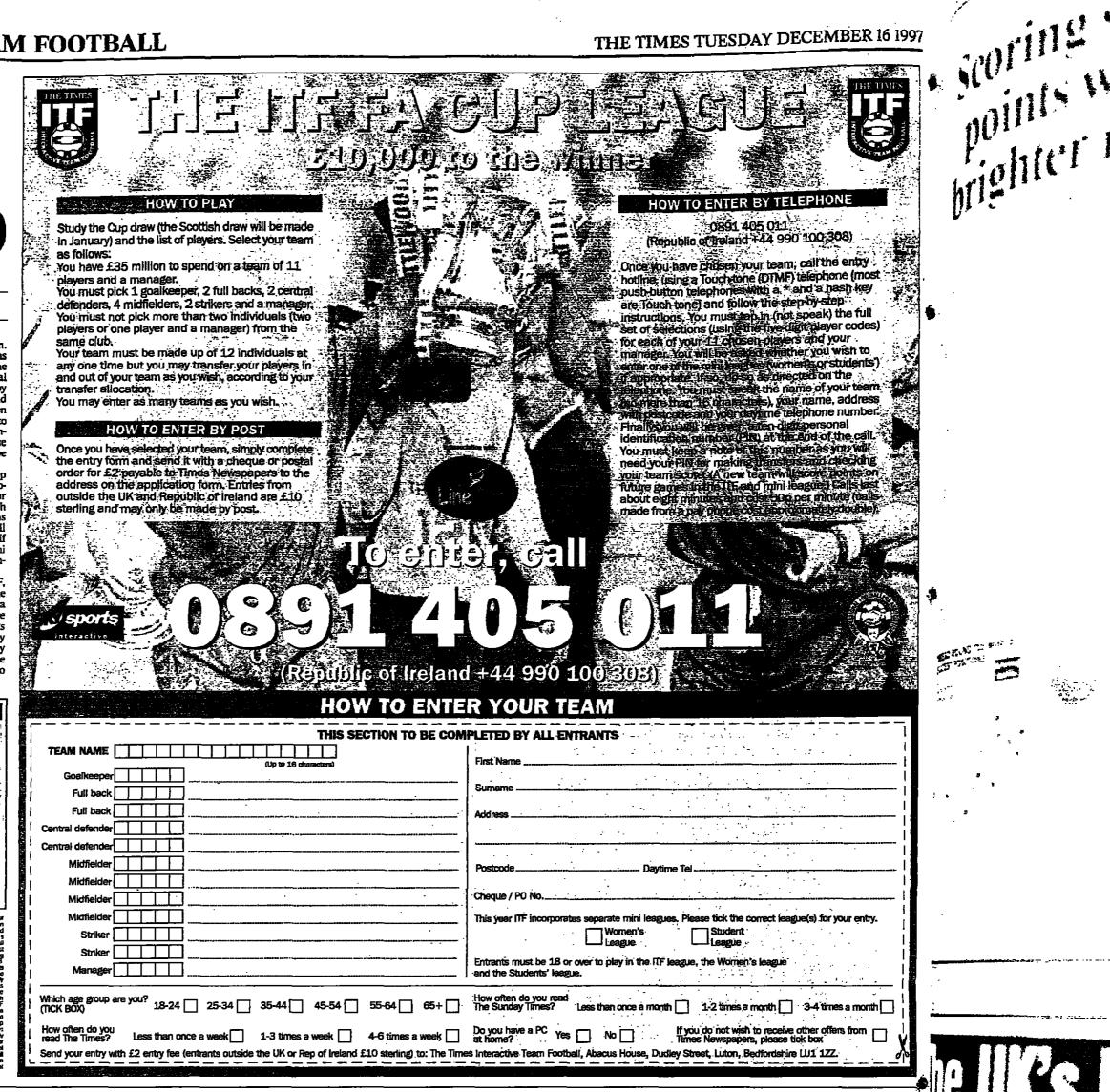
own discretion but remember. the sooner you enter the more

transfers your team will be

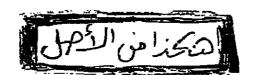
By competing in the FA Cup league, your players will automatically score points for matches played in the English and Scottish premier divisions during the 1997-98 football season as well and, if approprate, in the mini

By scoring points in the ITF, your team could win the monthly prizes of £1,000, a signed Mitre football, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a premier league match by scoring the most points in any one month. The mini league (student's and women's) also





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Scoring system points way to brighter racing

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

The fascination of this race

has much to do with the new

points system. Yesterday, for

example, the fleet ranking

order translated into final

overall positions at the end of

leg three, propels Standbridge into a 15-point lead over Cayard. There are then only

20 points separating Cayard

from Frostad, who would have

slipped from leading to fifth place, behind Swedish Match

in third and Smith in fourth

place. Dalton would be off the

pace in seventh, a full 44

With positions of rival boats

points adrift of Standbridge.

transmitted to the skippers every six hours, it is impossi-

ble for them to ignore the changing arithmetic of the

points system, as they try to

weigh up competing options on the course. There is no

doubt, for example, that Dal-ton will do almost anything in

the next few days to try to stop

himself drifting down the fleet in a leg that he set out to win. It

is hard to imagine him setting

off at the beginning of leg four

in three weeks time, to his

home port of Auckland, in

seventh place overall.
Standbridge, meanwhile, is happy to be ahead after sur-

viving a series of what he called his "heart-stopping moments" on Toshiba. All the

drama happened as the yacht

was passing Rottnest Island, shortly after the start of the

leg at the weekend. First, the

boat got stuck in a fish trap,

then one of the halyard winch-

es sheared from its mountings

and flew into the sea and

finally the depth transducer in

the forward section of the hull

popped out, flooding the bow

to a night of crashing and

banging, short tacking our

way south in up to 28 knots,"

Standbridge said yesterday.

"At the moment, it is a drag

race for the first time."

"After that, we settled down

FINALLY, the Whitbread Round the World Race fleet is enjoying what Lawrie Smith, the British skipper of Silk Cut. yesterday called "proper yacht racing" as the crews continue their game of cat and mouse on the long beat across the Great Australian Bight towards the Bass Strait.

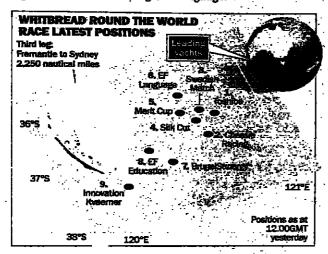
Smith is relishing the chance to mix it in a fleetracing setting where trimmming for speed, good crew-work, boat handling and sharp tactics make the difference between winning and losing. On the first two legs, there was precious little of this, when two boats 100 miles apart were considered close.

Now it is more like a giant Admiral's Cup race and that should suit the experienced inshore racers in the fleet such as Smith, Paul Cayard, on EF Language, John Kostecki, on Chessie Racing, and Roy Heiner, on BrunelSunergy. Yesterday, the third day out from Fremantle, there was still less than 20 miles separating first — Paul Standbridge,

on Toshiba - from last -Knut Frostad, on Innovation Kvaerner - and average speeds were remarkably con-sistent throughout the fleet. Having left the southwest tip of Australia behind, the

fleet has spread out on a north-south axis over about 60 miles, with Cayard furthest north and Frostad furthest south. Grant Dalton, skipper of Merit Cup, the third-most northerly boat, said he believed that a mistake by any-one now could have a decisive bearing on the outcome of the

Boats are starting to make their play for a north or south course, so it will be another 24 hours or so until things start to sort themselves out. Dalton said. "A mistake now could prove costly in the long run. I'm not prepared to say what we think, but there appear to be two schools of thought, although not radically different ... the southern course taken by Kvaerner and the



DISTANCE TO FINISH (as at 12:00GMT, with miles to Sydney): 1, Toshiba (US) 1,646.2 miles; 2, Chessie Racing (US) 1,646.8; 3, Swedish Match (Swe) 1,648.8; 4, Silk Cut (GB) 1,649.8; 5, Merit Cup (Monaco) 1,652.3; 6, EF Language (Swe) 1,652.4; 7, BrunelSurrengy (Holl) 1,654.7; 8, EF Education (Swe) 1,650.9; 9, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 1,665.0.

Sun goes down on calamitous Cowboys



هكذامن رلامل

Lake Dowson scores a spectacular touchdown as Kansas City defeat San Diego

denotes qualified for play-offs t denotes division winners

BY OUVER HOLT

THE spotlight fell on the fall from disgrace of the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday. Like lan Wright, the Arsenal footballer. they appear to have conquered their extracurricular problems only at the expense of their onfield prowess and, as they slid out of the National Football League (NFL) play-off picture with another embarrassing defeat, the club that has inherited their mantle of America's Team surged on towards the Super Bowl.

The Cowboys, who have won the National Football Conference (NFC) East division title for the past five years, collapsed to a 31-24 defeat at the hands of the Cincinatti Bengals. They have now lost nine of their 15 games this season — the first time for seven years that they have failed to progress beyond the regular season.

Against a background of reports that, earlier in the week, Troy Aikman, the Cowboys quarterback, had stormed off the training field despairing of his colleagues' performance and attitude, fevered speculation has continued about the fate of the Dallas coach, Barry Switzer.

"We played a pretty good ball game," Switzer said, "ex-cept for the second and third quarters, when it was disastrous." That provoked more mirth about the pronouncements of a man once labelled Bozo the Coach. His statement, one American commentator said, was like crediting Saddam Hussein with having a good Gulf War until the United States got invol-

The architect of the Cowboys' downfall was Boomer Esiason, the veteran Bengals quarterback, who passed for 269 yards and two touchdowns. It was the Cowboys' fourth successive loss and their seventh consecutive defeat away from their home field in Texas.

The Green Bay Packers, however, seem to be going from strength to strength. The Super Bowl champions and new idols of the sport have won their past four games and appear to be peaking at just the right time, vying now for home-field throughout the play-offs.

RESULTS AND TABLES

which would virtually guarantee a return to the Super Bowl in San Diego next month.

Against the Carolina Panthers, at the Eriksson Stadium in Charlotte, where the home team used to be so dominant. the Packers eased past their hosts 31-10 with another superlative performance from Bren Favre, their quarterback. Ominously for the rest, though, the Packers' running game also seems to be coming good at just the right time.

The win took the Packers' record to 12 wins and three defeats and piled the pressure on the San Francisco 49ers. the other dominant team in the NFC, to beat the Denver Broncos last night in the race for home-field advantage. Next weekend is the last in the regular season.

Dorsey Levens, the Packers' 17 times for 73 yards, but the best move of the game was made by Antonio Freeman. the wide receiver. With the Packers leading 17-3 in the third quarter, Freeman executed a wonderful feint that deceived his covering player and freed him to receive Favre's bullet throw.

If the Cowboys' decline has been spectacular, then so, too. has the improvement of the New York Jets. The whipping boys of the NFL last season with just one win, they moved to within an ace of the playoffs on Sunday by routing the Tampa Bay Bucanneers 31-0 in New Jersey.

The Bucanneers, who have scraped through to the playoffs, were overrun by the Jets. who can now clinch their own place by beating the Detroit Lions in Michigan next week. a result that would bring them their tenth victory this year. They could even clinch the American Football Conference East division title if the New England Patriots and the Miami Dolphins tie in Florida, a scenario that would have been ridiculed a year ago.

"Tampa Bay has a young team," Bill Parcells, the Jets' coaching alchemist, said, "and we got the jump on them today. Maybe they had a tough time keeping things in perspective." Perhaps that problem is afflicting Switzer.

NFC Western division

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COMPUTER SYSTEMS

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

I saw this hand in the 1995 Oxford v Cambridge bridge match.

≜AQJ942 **≜**K10 ♥K95 **♥**AJ864 **+KQ43** *AJ3

This was the auction: West 6 H

"Splinter" bid, showing heart support and a singleton dub. Cue-bids

Roman Key Card Blackwood 0 or 3 of the five "aces".

(The regular four, plus the king of trumps). Six Hearts is an indifferent contract, and Six Spades is laydown barring a red suit void. What went wrong?

important requirement for making a splinter bid is to have good trump support, almost Street, London NWI from invariably at least four cards.

West should have bid Three Spades over Two Hearts. Admittedly it is not clear what from the Macallan Box Office, East should do then, but it 31 Queens Road, Mortlake. would be reasonable for him to London SW14 8PH. Tel: 0181continue with Four Diamonds. 878 5844. When West bids Four Hearts East goes back to Four Spades, and now West can see that a) the Four Diamonds bid was a Sport and in the Weekend cue bid in support of spades, section on Saturday.

and b) that East does not have wastage in clubs - he has clearly bid Four Diamonds on second-round control, so cannot have second-round control

of clubs. Thus West can continue with Four No-Trumps and when East shows two of the five key cards (remember. spades is now the agreed suit and so the king of spades is the fifth ace), he can bid Six

☐ The Gold Cup has been won by Alan Mould's team (Gary Hyett, John Collings, Martin Jones, Paul Bowyer and John Helme). In the final. played in Peebles, they beat Ian Reissmann's team (Mike Perkins, Su Burn, Steve Eginton, Sally and Raymond Brock) by 60 IMPs. Mould beat Townsend and Reissman The worst bid in the auction The Macallan Internationwas West's Four Clubs. An al Bridge Pairs Championship

beat Steel in the semi-finals. 1998 will be played at The White House Hotel, Albany Wednesday January 21 to Friday January 23. Tickets and information are available

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in

WORD-WATCHING

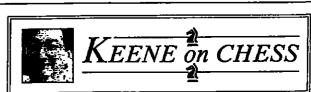
By Philip Howard

SHENANDOAH a. Mother-of-pearl b. Rig of a racing yacht c. A river in Virginia

MERCALLI a. Scale of earthquakes b. An Italian racing driver c. A type of pasta

HACKAMORE a. Of mixed race b. An Etonian football team c. A halter VERBUNKO

a. A gambling word-game b. Struck speechless c. A Hungarian dance Answers on page 46



By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

British advance

In the third round of the Fide (World Chess Federation) championship in Groningen, Holland, the British grandmasters Nigel Short and Michael Adams both won.

White: Michael Adams Black: Sergei Tiviakov Fide world championship Groningen, December 1997 Sicilian Defence

Bb5+ 4 0-0 Re1 c3 B11 9 Nbd2

Diagram of final position ATOM WE 5 4 3 2 企 2

White: Nigel Short Black: Andrei Sokolov Fide world championship

Groningen, December 1997 4 Nxd4 5 Nc3 6 Be2 7 Be3 8 0-0 9 Nb3 Bd7 11 a3 12 g4 13 Qe1 0-0 Bc8 14 Rd1 15 g5 16 gxt6 17 e5 Bx16 Btn4 19 Nc5 20 f5 22 Oxd4 23 Oxh4 Od4 26 Be3 27 Rd1 ☐ Raymond Keene writes on

chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

- WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

33 Re7 34 Rdd7

35 Ng6+

White to play. This position is from the game Yates - Colle, Hastings 1926. Black has lost his g-pawn and thus has great difficulties defending his exposed king. He has ferried his queen over to help but White now demonstrated that this piece is also a target. How did

Solution on page 46

the game conclude?

Discerning view from chroniclers of new professional age

WHAT one yearns most for in sport is perspective. Rugby union needs it more than most as it struggles to come to terms with professionalism and it gets it from lan Malin in Mud, Blood and Money. Malin. a journalist with The Guardian, subtitles his book: English Rugby Union goes Professional and paints a picture of a

sport twisting and turning in desperation for the way forward. Yet he does not isolate his subject, he does not remove it from the real world in the way that the outcrop of narratives on the British Isles tour to South Africa this summer do. For so many of the authors and their ghosts, there is

only the tour; they are as far removed from the perceptive and intelligent books on rugby touring that prospered during the Sixties and Seventies - mostly from the typewriters of Terry McLean and John Reason - as it is possible to

One's emotions are tugged by Malin from the very start: his dedication is to lan Tucker, the Australian at Oxford University who died as the result of a tackle during a game last year. It does no harm to be reminded that the game survives on a basis of self-discipline and self-restraint, features which have required application off the field as much as on it during the frantic politicking in which the English game has indulged.

The style is that of one standing on the edge of a cliff, appreciative of the view but apprehensive in case he should fall. There is an intimacy as Malin pokes his notebook into the doings of Martock RFC in darkest Somerset and into student rugby, into the perils that could befall an England captain then and now and a painful awareness of losing a friend with whom you were brought up but who has now developed into someone, well, someone different.

ness. It is a big business, in

quantity if not originality or

sales (unless Ian Botham's

Journalists have tended to

focus on the contemporary

scene in the hope of reaching

the mass-market (their laptops this year turning out, among other things, biographies of

Michael Atherton and Jack

Russell and two players' eye

accounts of the Ashes series).

amateurs on the nostalgic (biographies of long-ago he-

roes such as Grace, Sydney

Barnes and Sammy Woods)

and the worthy but ephemeral

(histories of the game in

Hertfordshire and under-arm

bowling are among 1997's

absent is humour - which

would not have amused

Wodehouse. It is refreshing,

therefore, when author and

publisher dare to attempt

something different and

touched with human warmth,

as is the case with Simon

Hughes's alarmingly honest diary of his 15 years as a county cricketer, A Lot of Hard Yakka. It is worth

reading to the end, if only to

hear about Botham and the

Another revivifyingly off-

beat diary is David Hopps's

year-long odyssey that sets

against England's travails

and triumphs against Zimba-

bwe. New Zealand and Aus-

tralia his own battles at the

head of his Yorkshire village

XI. While Atherton's leader-

What is most noticeably

quainter offerings).

name is on the cover).

That difference is admirably portrayed by John Hart, coach to New Zealand. Four years ago, Hart

RUGBY UNION

by David Hands

joined with Paul Thomas to write Straight from the Hart - part biography, part philosophy - and it sold 33,000 copies, which would be good going here, but in New Zealand was amazing for a sports

Now comes Change of Hart (due to be available here in the new year), which covers the period from Hart's elevation - at the third attempt - in 1995 to the position of national coach, which he will hold

until the 1999 World Cup. The two South Africa for the first time. books are complementary, but the second suggests that New Zealand, probably for the wrong reasons, were right to give Hart his head in the immediate wake of the game going professional.

He brings to the game the formidable man-management and organisational skills that distinguished his business career with Flencher Challenge Ltd. The book is largely an account of 1996, the year in which the All Blacks put behind them the loss of the World Cup final the previous year and showed the game just how it should be played and how much it meant to New Zealanders to win a series in

However, Hart has a vision for the game which encompasses more than the global branding he seeks for the All Blacks, which stares intently at the possibility of rugby as a genuine world game - which, at present, it is not. He also concludes his book with words that may strike a chord in the light of pronouncements last week within the English game: "The more I'm involved, the more I see the need to support the amateur game and winning the World Cup would hring in the revenue to sustain our game at all levels."

Perhaps there is a touch of the amateur about Miles Harrison

though not, I hasten to add, in the work he puts in which have helped develop his reputation as an informative television commentator. It is more the sense of boyish enthusiasm that runs through Best Seat in the House, the most readable of the Lions tour books. Harrison was fortunate in that his first Lions tour was a winning one. Like Malin, he brings a wider perspective to the work and enables us to share his

Marding

☐ Mud, Blood and Money, by lan Malin (Mainstream Publishing, £15.90). ☐ Change of Hart, by Paul Thomas (Hodder Moa Beckett). ☐ Best Seat in the House, by Miles Harrison (Aurum Press, £14.95).

Trying to revive a once-proud literary tradition

IT WAS not the point of the piece, but the introduction to Murray Hedgeock's fascinating and delightfully produced little book, Wodehouse at the Wicket, provides a plausible explanation as to where cricket acquired its reputation for distinguished literature, a reputation that, in modern times, has sometimes appeared cruelly misplaced.

P. G. Wodehouse, one of the greatest comic writers in the English language, was a useful club player and ardent cricket fan who, as Hedgoock's compendium shows, loved to weave the game into his stories. Wodehouse once took nine for 14 during a school match at Dulwich and, until he settled in the United States, the game formed an integral part of his life.

What is striking is the apparent importance of cricket to the Edwardian literary ser. Wodehouse frequently took the field with the likes of Arthur Conan Doyle, E.W. Hornung, J. M. Barrie, Hugh de Selincourt and Alec Waugh - and was far from the only one to incorporate the game into his fiction. Hornung wrote several stories around the magnificent Raffles, the gentleman thief and demon bowler, and de Selincourt penned arguably the finest fictional account of a game in The Cricket Match.

Nor was theirs the first celebrated literary circle to treasure the summer game: that honour goes to the Romantic group that included Charles Lamb, William Hazlitt and Leigh Hunt, and one of whom, John Nyren, chronicled the glory days of Hambledon, the first great cricket club, whose story is put into intriguingly fresh perspective by Ashley Mote and Peter Wynne-Thomas respectively in two more of the year's best books. No wonder the aspiring but not so well connected Lancastrian, Neville Cardus, took to writing

about the game. Cricket was also popular among thespians, who met the authors in an annual fixture at Lord's for many years, as we are reminded by Grenville Simons's diligent and affec-

CRICKET

by Simon Wilde

tionate biography of his dis-tant ancestor, William Yardley. In his day, Yardley be second only to W. G. Grace. but, at the age of 29, he threw in the game for the theatre, where he enjoyed acclaim, as actor, critic and playwright.

As long as cricket remained thoroughly English, literature had a use for it; once that ceased to be the case, separation was assured. That point was apparently reached by the Fifties when, from across the Atlantic, Wodehouse, for one. noticed a difference. "What's happened to English cricket?" he wrote to a friend. "I understand there aren't any amateurs any more ... If I came back to England in the summer, I wonder if I'd find

cricket interesting." Wodehouse never did come back, one reason being that he was afraid of a hostile reception, having made some wartime radio broadcasts that had been perceived in England as unpatriotic - a factor not referred to in Hedgeock's work. He died, a baseball fan.

For many years now, cricket writing has lain largely in the hands of professional journal-ists, amateur enthusiasts and contributors to Test Match Special, which trades with diminishing success on its once-quintessential English-



was reckoned as a batsman to

ship survives a traumatic year, the author's does not. ☐ Wodehouse at the Wicket, edited by Murray Hedgeock (Hutchinson, El2.99). ☐ We're Right Behind You, Captain!, by David Hopps (Robson,

> Hughes (Headline, £16.99). ☐ The Glory Days of Cricket: The Extraordinary Story of Broadhalfpenny Down, by Ashley Mote (Robson, 122,95). ☐ William Yardley: Master of Bat and Burlesque, by Grenville Si-mons (Wisteria Books, Birt Street, norton, Malvern, Wores: £15

A Lot of Hard Yakka. by Simon

plus £1.50 p&p). ☐ The History of Cricket: From the Weald to the World, by Peter Wynne-Thomas (available from

Madness in top coach's methods

lthough Nick Bollett-A ieri's account of his life to date gives away little about his coaching methods, it serves one very with a child prodigy on their hands are forewarned of the man's values. My Aces, My Faults extols the virtues of vanity, fast-food chains, distorted priorities and an overbearing sense of the man's

Like Andre Agassi, its most famed graduate, Bolle-ttieri's tennis academy is a product of fashion over substance. It is a dangerous move to bind fashion between hardback covers, a point that comes across fore-ibly in this book. Much of it is devoted to Agassi and Monica Seles, both of whose names generated resonance when Bollettieri's work was published in June. The question now gripping the world of tennis is not their stardom. but their abject failure to survive the course.

Tennis, with its one-onone encounters, is truly a mind game and Bollettieri's ability to engage the mind is

TENNIS

by Julian Muscat

his greatest asset. As the sport's original psychiatrist. he has chosen a medium offering plenty of suitable The fallouts from such relationships spectacular. are always however, and Bollettieri's fiercest barbs are reserved for rival coaches who have simply outpsyched him. In fashioning their own mind potions, they render his

Essentially, Bollettieri's message is that he must control every facet of his charges to ensure the maximum reward. The irony is that his own disjointed personal life reflects the fallacy of that philosophy. This book is worth a read for all the wrong reasons: it should be compulsory bedside matter for overzealous tennis

Given Bollettieri's missive of tennis as we approach the millennium, the publishers of A Handful Of Summers have reprinted Gordon Forbes's assorted memoirs at precisely the right time. It



of a wide-eyed South African youth learning lessons in life as well as tennis on his international travels.

A compulsive sleepwalker, Forbes's account of the night that he shared a room with Rod Laver embraces some of the finest literature conceived from a sportsman's pen. If this offering falls squarely within reflections on a bygone age, no apologies are necessary. Interest surrounding the recent

McEnroe and Bjorn Borg demonstrated the demand for such nostalgia.

In a similar vein. The Ballad Of Worpole Road a poetic tribute to the development of Wimbledon, by Max Robertson, formerly of BBC Radio - will appeal to those of a lighthearted disposition. This is ideal material for those with long memories, although some things never change. One of many enjoyable cartoons by Loon depicts the infant

Suzanne Lenglen receiving the gift of a tennis racket from her father, who fashioned her remarkable career. The teenage sensation is far from a Nineties phenome-

> ☐ My Aces, My Faults, by Nick Bollettieri and Dick Schaap (Robson Books, £17.95). ☐ A Handful Of Summers, by Gordon Forbes (Harper Collins, E5.99).
>
> The Ballad Of Worpole Road, by Max Robertson (Queen Anne Press, £9.99).

without heroes IMAGINE reading a history of British football without

Rewriting

history

George Best, a tome on racing this century without Lester Piggott or a retrospective on Wimbledon without Virginia Wade. The urge to return such books to the shelf, there to gather dust, would be overwhelming. Alongside those, there is a place for In the Swim, which boasts of charting "the full history" of the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) from 1869.

The index hints at the

horror to come. No Grinham or Lonsbrough to be found. Could this be right? Well, let's try another Olympic champion. Moorhouse. No. afraid not. Gillingham or Hardcastle? No. Sharron Davies. then? No. Oh dear. Some of these names are in fact granted passing mentions in the book, even the odd photograph, but any discerning reader is left open-mouthed by the failure to tell the sport's headline success stories and reflect the life and colour of its most famous characters.

SWIMMING

by Craig Lord

The authors lament the lack of media coverage of the sport since its heyday in the Fifties and Sixties, when British swimmers won Olympic, Common-European and vealth titles. "It is ironic that it could well be that swimmers lacked interest because they behaved themselves," the authors wail in confirmation that, like the ASA itself, they

have not understood the issue. This book and the ASA should spend more time publicising the association's great successes and less turn-ing the public off with a welter of information about how well

If there is anything to commend in the book, it is the excellent use of old newspaper and magazine cuttings, postcards, cartoons and other artwork that tell the story of swimming in pictures. Generally, however, In the Swim is best left to sink without trace. ☐ In the Swim, by Ian Keil and Don Wix (Swimming Times Ltd.

78 44 7 77 22

MET TO THE

its bureaucracy works.

King inspires with tale of triumph over adversity

every horse-mad teenager. Born to a nonhorsey family in the Devon village of Salcombe Regis, where her father is verger. King learnt to ride on the vicar's pony. When she was 11, she was taken to Badminton, at her insistence, and announced on the return trip that she wanted to become an event rider.

However, money was scarce and there was no "ready-made" pony for King to climb aboard, so her mother, Jill, managed to borrow ponies for her daughter to ride at the Axe Vale Pony Club. On leaving school. King went to the yard of Sheila Willcox, three times a Badminton winner and a renowned taskmaster. Hard graft over 212 years with Willcox gave King the basic skills and tenacity to

embark on an eventing career.

After a series of setbacks, financial relief came in the form of sponsorship by Carphone. Gill Robinson, then a director of the company, has supported King ever since. A win at Badminton in 1992 on King William fulfilled King's childhood ambition. Since then, a team gold medal at the 1994 world championships and two European team gold medals have firmly established her in the top echelons of the

King has collaborated with her selfless former groom. Annie Collings, and gives humorous insights into the horses that have shaped her career. The handsome King William, brilliant across country. but a careless showjumper, is likened to Gregory Peck, the film star: Star Appeal, her 1996 Burghley winner, is "a thug" who "tries his heart out"; King Solomon. on which she won Blenheim last year. is "a mischief-maker with a touch of class". But it is the tail-swishing King Boris. on

EQUESTRIANISM

by Jenny MacArthur

which King won the British Open in 1990, for whom she retains the deepest affection. I can never thank Boris enough for his courage and confidence ... he gave me the chance to learn so much and yet he was still learning himself."

The accompanying picture - one many superb glossy offerings — of Boris's horrific nosedive at the Normandy Bank at Badminton in 1988 testifies to that courage. The next year, he returned to Badminton and finished second.

Those in search of more cerebral reading should turn to Mary Wanless's thought-provoking For The Good of the Horse. Wanless, who has a degree in physics and lectures internationally on body-mind integration, has developed her own style of teaching riding, based on the need to minimise the stresses that riders inevitably place on the fit, stabled horse.

The advent of horse dentists, physiotherapists, chiropractors and other types of healers has brought about, Wanless feels, "a quiet revolution" in riding and horse care as approaches once labelled "alternative" are gradually becoming accepted. With 16 years of research behind it, this book, which includes chapters on dentistry, saddlery and farriery, offers a fascinating reappraisal of our whole approach to the handling and care of the horse.

☐ All The Kings' Horses, by Mary King and Annie Collings (David & Charles, £15.99). For The Good of the Horse, by Mary Wanless (Kenilworth Press, £19.95).

Home from the sea with some epic stories to tell

ANYONE already signed up for Sir Chay Blyth's next global race for amateurs in 2000 should read On Equal Terms, by Marina Cantacuzino, just to be absolutely sure that their money is going to be well spent and that the experience is one they

The book may be about the travails of the disabled crew aboard Time & Tide during the BT Global Challenge, which finished earlier this year, but many of the experiences and problems unflinchingly described in it apply equally to ablebodied crews.

Time & Tide's circumnavigation was a triumph for a crew many thought should not have been allowed even to attempt the race and much of the book deals with the struggles involved coping with disabil-ities ranging from a lost limb to diabetes. The book also deals at length with the

conflicts that quickly surfaced, the difficulties some of the crew had getting on with their skipper, James Hatfield, the frustration some felt about not being given a chance to helm the boat or learn how to sail properly and the resentment caused by differing views as to how hard

they actually wanted to race their boat. Some, notably Lesley Bowden, the longsuffering medic, also discovered what many professional sailors already know - that offshore ocean racing for long periods can be an uncomfortable, unglamorous and unpleasant business.

Cantacuzino has done a very thorough job, sketching detailed portraits of the many people who joined the boat at various stages and then charting the race in a readable narrative that draws on extensive interviews and diary accounts. The emphasis throughout is on the personalities and on the ever-changing

SAILING

by Edward Gorman

balance between the strong and the weak, both physically and mentally. Raphael Dinelli, the Frenchman res-

cued from certain death in the Southern Ocean by Pete Goss in this year's Vendee Globe single-handed round-the-world race, is an angry young man determined to show the French sailing establishment that he is good enough to race round the world. His book, Rescue from Beyond the Roaring Forties, is a generally well-translated account of how he ended up standing on the coach roof of a sinking Algimouss in freezing seas, while Goss beat through 70-knot headwinds to find

Here is Dinelli after standing for hours in the frozen water: "It was terrible and it just seemed to go on and on. Each wave that struck me choked and froze, working down inside my suit. I could feel my feet locking up with the cold. I started dancing on the flooded, swept deck to keep my circulation going. I must have seemed like a madman, that black night in the midst of a raging sea ..."

We have not heard the last of Dinelli, who has secured sponsorship to build a new Open 60 to campaign in next year's Around Alone race and then the Vendée in 2000. Perhaps in one of these mara-thons he will finally fulfill his dream. On Equal Terms, by Marina Cantacuzino

(Simon & Schuster, £16.99). ☐ Rescue from Beyond the Roaring Forties, by Raphael Dinelli (Adlard Coles Nautical, E14.99).

Purist puts case in battle for soul of Viennese Waltz

ABOUT five million people go dancing in Great Britain each week, whether to compete or dance socially in traditional ballroom, the more recent salsa or in sequence and old time, but the literature available for them to read is surprisingly sparse. Even sparser is the field of books aimed at the modern dance sport

competitor. This is likely to change with the acceptance by the International Olympic Committee of dance sport as a fullyfledged Olympic event, through recognition of the International Dance Sport Federation, the Swiss-based amateur body. Early off the mark this Christmas is Harry Smith-Hampshire, the world's leading expert on the Viennese Waltz. with a book that is a must for all

competitive dancers. Smith-Hampshire, undefeated in the Viennese between winning the European professional championship in 1955 and his retirement from competition dancing in 1961, provides great technical detail. His book is likely to appeal mostly to those aiming for Olympic gold medals. although anyone in the competitive sphere would find it useful.

It comes at a time when the world of dance sport is torn over the Viennese, danced more often in competitions on the Continent than in Britain. Smith-Hampshire and other purists worldwide want the dance to remain restricted to four figures: the reverse and natural turns and the reverse and natural fleckerls, which are difficult, fast turns on the spot. They are engaged in heated debate with modernisers calling for lifts, curtsies and other figures to be introduced to add excitement and interest. However, the four standard competitive figures remain those

DANCE SPORT

by Ruth Gledhill

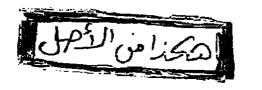
authorised for competitive use and these are the ones Smith-Hampshire analyses. Of all the five traditional ballroom dances, which have recently been unimaginatively renamed the standard dances, the Viennese is the most fun and most energetic to dance. Simply remaining upright can be a problem, due to the dizziness caused by the unceasing turns. For the novice female, remaining in a standing position is often achieved purely by clinging on for grim life to a partner.

While such a poise achieves zero marks on the competitive floor, it is in this style of social interaction that the dance has its origins. As Smith-Hampshire explains, the fleckeri, the foundation step of the Viennese, dates from centuries ago, to the robust alpine folk dances of Austria and Germany, when couples rotated on the spot in triple time, holding each other

closely. The speed of the dance — between 60 and 70 bars a minute — dictates that there can be no "rise and fall". Competitors who fail to maintain a shallow arc as they spin around the floor can too easily come to grief in a scrambled melee of legs and arms as, like a swaying suspension bridge, they lose control of themselves and their partners.

It is such disasters that Smith-Hampshire, with his detailed analysis of technique, is keen to avert.

☐ The Viennese Waltz. (Supadance, 159 Queens Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, 1G9 5BA. £6.50 incl p&p.).



IT IS a natural enough conclusion, watching them ply their dangerous trade, that jump

jockeys need their brains tested. In the unhappy case of

Brian Harding, who ends 12 months of frustration at

Musselburgh today, precisely such a scan was a necessity last week before the Jockey Club would finally allow him

A year ago today, Harding fractured his skull in a fall at

Newcastle. The next thing he

remembers was seeing his

girlfriend on Christmas morning, and after that watching One Man's success in the King George VI Chase the following day. The grey is trained by Gordon Richards, for whom

Harding had been cultivating

RICHARD EVANS Nap: Koo's Promise (I.40 Hereford) Koo's Promise was in season and did not enjoy the soft ground at Haydock recently. She should be more at home

around this course on better

ground and looks well handi-

Next best: Pavlova (1.00 Folkestone)

a reputation for horsemanship as second jockey to Tony Dobbin - notably with con-

secutive wins on McGregor

The Third in the Cross Country Chase at Cheltenham. Harding's recuperation was encouraged by the prospect of riding either The Grey Monk

or Addington Boy in the Gold Cup. Three weeks before the

race, the Irishman saw a

consultant, expecting clear-

ance for his return to the

saddle. Instead, he was told

that - since a 30-second

tremor in one of his legs after

the fall had been construed as

"a fit" — he would be banned

"It came as a total shock,"

Harding, 25, said yesterday.

Since then, I sometimes

thought the year would never

end. Apart from cursing doc-

tors. I have just been working

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

suggests the best value in

the ante-post market

CORAL WELSH NATIONAL

Chepstow, December 27

CHIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

Cyberge Bells Life

Eudhoe

Going: ಇಂಡ

Indian Tracker

What A Hand

Belmont King

General Wolfe

Call It A Day

COTAN HINE

71 71 51 04

4-1 14-1 (6-1 14-

from racing for 12 months.

back his licence.

54 4443

The bound

WEE SPORT

Con 1/6 or 1 55 (2m 3) hole: 1 Vitaman (R Farrant, 15-3) 2 Line Ct Conduct (11-4 tay) 3 Champing Nieu 55-11 9 fan Nik dist Mrsd Pilman Tro Edd St 1 area into 204 bt. 2 30 (2m 41 100d cm, 1, Even Flow (M A Facquired 74 154) 2 higher 3ct (25-1), 3, Larly 5 Lord (3-4) 5 ran 3, 3) T Casey Tote 52 70 51 50 52 50, DF 533 70 CSF 533 24 203 34 3.00 (2m 4) *10.0 (abo) 1 Cool Spring IA Report to 14** 2 Mass Brechnel (14-1)* 3, 1amn Watton 15** 1 Melody Mad (f) 11:10 fav 16 far 5* 2* 1 Forstor Tole (*5.50 (24.4) (2.46) 25.30 OF 250.30 NEWS SPENS WEATS ON THE ENGINEERING TRAVEL SHOPFING THE SECRET

Manual III

"What's the best way to

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110 30 CSF, Ed3 46 1.25 (3m 2) chi 1, Ideal Partner (M A Fittigerard, 15-1) 2 Herhorse (5-1) 5 Man 16 the Mutch 5-11 Denham Ho (i) evens lov 8 rer Sh had bed 7 Nechoos Tote 511 30 CT 70 2110 51 TO DF 510 80 CSF 578 38 Going: good 12.40 (2m 41 hdie) 1, Nobie Norman (P Niver, 55-1): 2, Tom's River (12-1); 3, Argent Scout (3-1) Hopetul Lord 8-13 fav. 13 ran. Nis. 12 Mrs. M. Reveley Tote 1-18 20 E3 30, E2 50, £1.20. DF: £36.70. Trio: £56.80 CSF £629.49 Trio: CS6.80 CSF 2629 49
1.15 (2m ch) 1, Radical Choice (B Storey, 5-1), 2 Putrovalue (5-4 fav); 3, Made Of Steel (20-1), 9 ran, Dist, 221, J Charlion, Tote: 12 50; 180, 21.80, 23.90, DF: 55.30
1700: 29.20, CSF 210.54
1.45 (2m hote); 1, Dan De Man (M Foster, 5-1); 2, General's Orders (14-1); 3, Boyzon-toowa (3-1), Contraton Sound 9-4 fav. 10 ran, 8, %1, Miss, L Saddal, Tote, 59.40;

2280. Der gr. 100 och 1, Hold Your Rents (J. Frost, 2-1 tev); 2. Red. Lighter (8-4); 3. Jeibreester (7-1). 8 ran 5, 211 R. Frost. Toes: C3 80; 116,0; 51 10, 51,80. DF 54.20. CSF: 58.82. Tricast: 522.80 2.40 (3m 31 hdis) 1, Betmorebruno (A P McCov, 4.5 tex): 2, Secon Dute (5-2); 3, Spirit Level (20-1), 7 ran. 1 kl, 181, M Pipe. Tota: £1 70; £1.10, £1.80, DF; £2.00, CSF 22.81.

3.10 (2m 11 Indie) 1. Effectual (S Kelly, 7-2);
2. Kich Rish, (7-4); 3. Eastdon Gold Dust (16-1) Galapino 6-5 fev 5 ran. Dist, dist. Nies V Williams. Tota: £4.70; £1.10, £2.00.
DF-£4.40, £25: £9.61.

3.40 (2m 11 liet) 1. Missier Sendrovitch (A P McCoy, 8-11 liet); 2. Nies Approach (15-2);
3. Our Men Fill (9-1) 12 ran. NR: Winning Town, 5. 154. Miss V Williams 10-16-£1.70;
£1.30, £2.50, £1.40 DF-£1.150, Trio-£8.80.
CSF-£5.54.





RACING: GREYSTOKE-BASED JOCKEY CLEARED TO RIDE AGAIN AFTER YEAR OF FRUSTRATION

Harding makes poignant return

as a stable lad and trying to keep fit and riding out since the summer.

"I got married in June and went on honeymoon to the Dominican Republic, and went home to County Cork for a while. I'm as fit as I can be. though race-riding fitness is something else and I'll no doubt need my first outing, like a heavy horse. The guv nor has been brilliant. stuck his neck out and argued my cause. But now I'm just

Richards and his protege sought — and found — a second opinion, but could not persuade the Jockey Club to review the case. Nor was he even permitted to return after 362 of his 365 days off to ride The Grey Monk at Haydock last Saturday. Richards, who considers Harding's treat-ment "disgraceful", has promised him good mounts of that ilk, though today's is an outside ride, Delightfool in the Table Maiden Hurdle. In the event, The Grey

CYBORGO, whose only defeat in five starts over fences came

remains unexposed and will take all the beating in the Coral

Martin Pipe trained seven year old. Pipe a master at getting

his horses fit eacidled Cyborgo to win the Stavers' Hurdle at

The ground of Cheriston in December is Instantially on the soft side, which will suit, and this race has been his target for some line. (PROTESO, eightcoming code a 5-1 chance by Ladhabata, is there to be a warm temperature in 12 days time and should be backed at 7-1 with Carallar Hills.

There are question managed most on his mass bells take least to prominence in the heating status, promising than to Senor El Berrutti in the lipitage in Cold Cale of Chelenham on Sandrday, but is far from determine size, another state of Chepsow.

Indian Tracker, another Speciatry, made much of the running when second to See blore Business in the Remarkata Chase over these miles of Chepstow (Banjo a stayings) third), but is another whose stamings is not another.

Sandre defined a 41b penalty for winning a four-runner state at Sandrown, but takes a long time to warm up and will find it harder to make ground up in this more competitive contest.

harder to make ground up in this more competitive contest.

on unsuitably fast ground in the Cheltenham Gold Cup,

Lack of a ran this term should be no problem for the

Challenback on his only run of the 1995/96 seeson.

Weish National at Cheostow.

Monk would have been a thoroughly exhausting con-veyance. Peter Niven had to push him along as he idled in front in the back straight, and more vigorously still on the run-in to see off Rough Quest, who was spared a hard race on his return from injury.

Another of Greystoke's staying chasers will be in action on Saturday, with Unguided Missile on course for the Betterware Cup at Ascot, a race he won under a memorable ride from Richard Dun-

THUNDERER

Timekeeper's top rating: 1.40 JASON'S BOY.

1.10 COWSLIP SELLING HURDLE

HEREFORD

1.10 Jaquies Gien. 1.40 Koo's Promise. 2.10 Play Games. 2.40 Nomax Lad. 3.10 Lancastrian Jet. 3.40

Michael Brayeso (3) 100154 JACKES GLEN 15 (D.G.) P Hotos 4-10-7 ... Mr R Wilder (7) 11 PPP - NASKEN LOCH 175F D Hyde 7-10-7 ... Mr J Tozard (5)

6-4 Januer Sien, 9-2 Sokker Cove. 5-1 Aal El Aai, 13-2 lochydoney Bov, 7-1 Fermikro, 14-1 Admirally Way, 16-1 Xanophon Ol Curara. 20-1 others

woody two years ago. Go Ballistic who beat Unguided Missile in last year's running. was also among yesterday's 14 five-day entries, though he has the option of the Smurfit Long Walk Hurdle on the same card.

Large Action will at last be tried over a trip in this race, having confirmed that he no longer has enough dash for the Champion last weekend. He laded two out to finish well beaten on his comeback behind Relkeel in the Bula

Hurdle, but may get closer to the runner-up, Pridwell, over this extra mile.

Ferdy Murphy, having watched French Holly confirm himself a rising star at Haydock on Saturday, unleashes an established one in Paddy's Return in the same race, which may also provide an unconventional platform for Algan's attempt to win a second King George VI Chase. The French horse was a fortunate winner in 1994, when Barton Bank fell at the last.

MUSSELBURGH

12.45 The Sharrow Legend. 1.20 Shanavogh. 1.50 Slasher Jack. 2.20 Ballyline. 2.50 Xaipete. 3.20 Nigel's Lad.

12.45 sea hole selling handicap hurdle (£2,103: 2m) (7 runners)

| 6194 TRISINIOM 8 ICD F.6) P Monteoth 8-11-12 ... L Wyer 2 14-5 PHALAROPE 5 (D.F.6) T Ethermoton 9-11-7 R Supple 3 5324 BAHER 7 S Clark 8-11-5 Blass R Clark (5) Life 5 50-7 IHE SHARROW LEGEND 273 J Scienson 5-10-6 E Cataglian 5 63-2 FANADIYN 179F J South 5-10-0 R McSrath (3) 6 639-6 SPRING ICADED 24 (D.F.) F Jestin 6-10-0 N L Lynn (7) 7 000 MY GOOSON 22 M Dots 7-10-0 N Smith 2-1 Fanathy, 9-4 Triennium, 9-2 Baher, 7-1 Phalarope, 10-1 The Sharrow Legend 16-1 Spring Loaded, My Godson

1.20 BATHING COACH NOVICES CHASE (£2,886; 3m) (9)

E.Z. 880: 377) (3)

1 42PP THE ENERGISER 22 (F) D Lamb 11-11-5 J Burke
2 -531 ROYAL YORK 8 (C.F.S) G Richards 5-10-13 ... P Carberry
3 FURB COTTSTOWN BOY 39 Mrs S Brachume 6-10-12
4 54-4 CROFTON LANE 36 (D.F.) J Dison 9-10-12 B Storey
5 3-00 ESCULMANU 19 6 Richards 6-10-12 I O'Nara
6 00FD HyA PRIMI 8 H Chamberton 6-10-12 ... T Read
7 13-2 SHAMANOGH 19 (BF F.G.S) 6 M Moore 6-10-12 ... J Cathaghan
8 PIP- PARSONS GREEN BOY 240P (D.F) W Kemp 5-10-11
C McCormack (5)
9 -P40 FOREMER GREY 24 (D.F.) J Howard Johnson 5-10-6 K Johnson 17-10 Royal York, 5-4 Shanarogh, 14-1 Forever Grey, 16-1 Esquimau, 25-1 The Energiser, Cottstown Boy, Parsons Green Boy, 33-1 others

1.50 TABLE MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,337: 2m 4f) (14)

2.337: 2m 41) (14)

1 00 DAMCA 22 N Mason 5-11-5 R Guest
2 09-0 DARK MIDNIGHT 74 (B) D Lamb 8-11-5 J Burlie
3 30 ESCOBAR 15 A Winhams 4-11-5 J J Burlie
4 4-PP KATOUCHE 23 S Labs 6-11-5 Miss R Clark (5)
5 -SFI KATSAR 18 M Hamsond 5-11-5 Miss R Clark (5)
6 4R33 LITTLE DUNE 30 Mrs 8 Boadburne 5-11-5 Miss M Bradburne (7)
7 0- MOURED 378-3 J Systemson 7-11-5 F Calleghain
8 PP NOUREAR 6 J Howard Labracon 4-11-5 A S Smith
10 7P0 PRINCE OF THYNE 270 Mrs J Goodeslow 8-11-5 B Storry
11 D. REALLY USERUL 21 M TORburler 5-11-5 P Carberry
12 2 SLASHER JUCK 28 (BF) R Fahey 6-11-5 L Wyer
13 6-6 WCTOR LASZLO 15 R Aklan 5-11-5 P Nivea
14 -303 DELIZANTORU 28 R Noon 6-11-0 B Harding (3)
4 Stasher Jack, 3-1 Really Usekul, 5-1 Lattle Duke, 7-1 Phontoro Haze, 12-1 7-4 Stepher Lack, 3-1 Really Usekul, 5-1 Lattle Duke, 7-1 Pitantoro Haze, 12-1 Escobar Victor Lacelo, 14-1 Delightipol 16-1 others

2.20 MUSSELBURGH LINKS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,469: 2m 4l) (5)

9-4 Ballyline, 3-1 Wise Advice, 7-2 Wavunhill, Montave, 8-1 Punian

2.50 HOLE ACROSS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,814: 2m) (8)

1 206) TELAYWATCH 3 (D.F.G.S.) J Boxis: 5-10-0 ... 5 Taylor (S)
2 9412 XAPETE 13 (BF.O.F.G.) N Mason 5-11-12 ... R General
3 2945 UK HYGIBE 7 (A.D.F.) M Hormond 7-11-8 ... R General
4 462 MASTER BAVARD 8 (D.F.G.) P Manuelth 9-11-4 5 3340 TONY'S FEFLINGS 19 (F) Mrs D Thomson 9-11-1 Mr Ms Bradhume (7)
5 3340 TONY'S FEFLINGS 19 (F) Mrs D Thomson 9-11-1 M Ficsier
6 3541 APPEARANCE MONEY 7 (D.G) F Morphy 6-11-0 P Carberry
7 POMP WILD BROOK 7 (Y) 8 Bisson 7-10-12 C McCorresch (5)
8 2945 CARDENDEN 26 (DD) F.G.) Servicy 9-10-12 8 Storry
Macket Barard, 7-2 Toringh 7-1 Technology 10 6-4 Master Barard, 7-2 Xaipete, 7-1 Terlay n'adon, 8-1 Uk Hyguene, Appearance Meney, 12-1 Yany s Feelings, Cardonden, 14-1 Wild Brook

3.20 GAS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,786: 3m) (5)

o reservement o (r.o.) u sonon e-10-0 L Wyer Ngel's Les, 5-2 Liniathen, 4-1 Stan's Youn Man, 5-1 Major Harris, 25-1

COURSE SPECIALISTS

MUSSSI BURGH: Trainers: M Hartmond, 31 woners from 118 numers; 26.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 12 from 51, 23.5%; N Trainer, 8 tom 34, 23.5%; C Patrick, 11 from 47, 23.4%; P Monterth, 15 from 76, 19.7%; J Buckey, 3 from 71, 17.6%; Junkeys; P Carberry, 10 winners from 34 fales, 24.5%; R Santhy, 10 from 47, 21.3%; P Nives, 13 from 64, 20.3%; J Callaghten, 7 from 41, 17.1%; M Foster, 3 from 19, 15.6%; A S Smith 5 from 33, 15.2%.

HEREFORD: Trainers: Mess V Wifeants, 5 winners from 9 numers, 55 6%. N Chance, 3 form 8, 37 5%; C Marin, 3 form 8, 37 5%; M Pipe, 39 from 116, 33 6%; P Hobbs, 14 from 67, 20,9%; P Nicholis, 9 from 44, 20,5% Joseps: A P McCop, 25 winners from 85 fides, 30,5%; B numerous, 14 from 57, 24 6%. N Wallersson, 10 from 60, 16 7%; C Maude, 7 from 47, 14.9% G Hogan, 4 from 32, 12.5%; G Tormey, 3 from 24, 12.5%; D J Burchell, 5 from 45, 11.1%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Musselburgh; 2.50 Uk Hygiene, 2.50 Wild Brook, Folkestone: 3.00 One More Man

FOLKESTONE

12.30 MUSEUM (nap)

1.00 Northern Village

1.30 Quistaquay

2.00 Angelo's Double 2.30 Morgans Hill 3.00 Court Master 3.30 Pointed Remark

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF.F.Q.S) (Mrs. D Februsian) 3 Half 12-6

Received number Suringure form if — teil, P — pulled up U — unceased index. B = brought down S = blood up R = blood up R — blood up

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

12.30 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,301 2m 1l 110yd) (7 runners) PS-P271 AURSI SOTI II. 10 (B.C.C.S.) (A-Men Partnership) 6 (McCourt 6-11-10 D Bridgwater 42245-1 AURSI SOTI II. 10 (B.C.C.S.) (9 D Brien) 0 7 Brien 9-11-1 Mr S Duraci (5) 99 007645 FERRERS 272 (BF,D.G) (J Burtli Mr. 7 Siy 6-11-0 W Marston 94: 2012-45 MUSEUM 10 (BF,C.S.) (6 Burber 8 R Bubber) P Winterson 6-11-0 M A Programal 7-2762 COME ON PERMY 5 (F) (4 Francestrop 5 Marker 6-10-1 C Weeb (5) 99 007207-0 STORM TRGER 17 (G) (8 F Partnerstrop 5 Marker 6-10-1 C Weeb (5) 43: 1073075 LTTLE NOD SSSP (D.F.) (D Partle) J R Sect 8-10-0 R Thorston

BETTING: 9-4 August Twellin, 3-1 Aura Son II, 7-2 Hassaum, 9-2 Come On Penny, 12-1 Fembra, 14-1 orbers

FORM FOCUS

Ants: Soif it beat Be Grave 11/91 in, 10-turner handicap hardle at Towcester (2m. good to soit) with Museum (Bib better oil) 181 5m.

Windsor (2m. 41, good) with Come On Penny (171 to better oil) 321 8th Ferrers 131 5th of 9 to Dessalve in novice handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m. good to firm) Come On Penny 2791 2md of 5 to Secret Batt in handicap hurdle at Locester (2m. good to firm) Come On Penny 2791 2md of 5 to Secret Batt in handicap hurdle at Locester (2m. soit) Storm Tiger 401 9th of 13 to Ethancto in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m. good) Little Nod pulled up in hurder chaze at Humingdon (2m. 41 110yd, good to firm), previously 61 2md of 9 to Athas in novice hurdle at Weston Abbot (2m. 11, good to soit) AINSI SOFT iL can confirm Towcester running with Museum

1.00 HEATHFIELD HANDICAP CHASE (£4,625: 3m 2f) (7 runners) | 201 | U141097 SEVERFORT LAD 631 (0.6.5) (A. Josep 8.12-0) | M. A. Fizgerald 602 | SIC200-0 Big BEN DAN 21 (CD.F.G.S.) Mars N Carolli E. Lames 11-11-12 | J.R. Kinzanagh 203 | UP-4222 SECRET BID 15 (F) (Dood Parines) A. Rane 7-11-2 | J.R. Kinzanagh 204 | 3163-P4 | NORTHERM VILLABE 15 (F) (L. Dazie 1. A. Tace 10-11-2 | G. Baddey 205 | U144-14 P. PAVLOWA 15 (S) (NEX. M. McClone) f. Four 7-10-12 | G. Baddey Component Componen

1996. BALLY CLOVER 9-11-12 H Williamson (7-4 lea) Miles V Williams, 10 ran

FORM FOCUS
Silvertort Lad pulled up in handicap chase at Fontwell (2m 2l 110yd, good to sell) Big Ben Dun 47 7th of 9 to Sophie May in handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7l 110yd soll) Secret Bid 2l 2nd of 9 to Dream Leader in handicap chase at Follestone (3m 2l good) with Morthern Village (5th belter off) 361 Grey Gorden 181 3rd of 8 to Fladed Oats in nowice chase at Fontwell (3m 2l 110yd, good) Master Hopeful 27t 6th of 17 to Sample Sumon in howice handle at Stratford (2m 6t 110yd, good to lirm)

SECRET BID has good chance on recent course and distance ellori

1.30 SELLINDGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,364° 2m 6i 110yd) (8 runners)

40P-21 EURO FORUM 15 (CD.5) (J Durodon) J Grifond 5-12-0	S Laird [6]	
31-4124 OURSTADLIAY 10 (BF.5) (J Burel J Modime 5-10-12	David Turner (6)	
30318-U4 MILLMOUNT 13 (B.CD.5) (T Breen) T McGovent 7-10-11	R Thornton 4021-U0 SIEEPTITE 19 (F) (C & S Brester) Meet H Knight 7-10-8	J Preser
F111-2 CARACOL 18 (CE.5) (C Bolton) J Neville 8-10-7	T Bascomthe	
43/300 MOST WELCOME NEWS 20 (A Peopl 6 L Moore 5-10-3	M Batchelor (2)	
7 510P4-P KNEEF 12 (G) (H J S Rannig R Curte 5-10-3	J Parthouse (3)	
8 66/0-PP SURGICAL SPIRIT 84 (R Lee) 8 Peace 7-10-0	J Goldstein (3)	Long handicapt Nieet 9-10, Surgical Spirit 7-10

BETTING, 9-4 Euro Forum, 5-2 Unistancey, 3-1 Caracol, 6-1 Millimouni, 12-1 Steepbre, 16-1 others. 1996, NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

Euro Fonem beat Mr Chatavary 31 in 5-numes conditional nonce hurdle at Folkestone (2m 61 110yd, good to soft) Questaquary 15t 4th of 12 to Jet Files in nonce hurdle at Toncester (2m 51 good).

Milimount 111 4th of 10 to None Stirred in handleap hurdle at Fonewell (2m 61 110yd, soft) Steephine 44t last of 8 to Frontier Filight in handleap hurdle at Taunton (2m 31 110yd, good) Caracol 9t 2nd of 8 to Riverbank Rose in handleap hurdle at Bangor (2m 11 good to soft)

EURO FORUM looks capable of completing a double over the course and distance

2.00 TOTE NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £4.450, 2m 54) (8 numbers) 7651-44 WHO AM I 21 (6F,S) (H Weisteag) R Aires 7-11-5 — A Thornton 3222-6 ANGELO'S DOUBLE 17 (D.G.S) (I Hermood) R Buckler 9-10-12 — B Powell UPOSP-6 BENU I 3 IA Incison) T Caser 6-10-12 — B Powell W Marston 48003-4 CHMA MAR I 27 (6) Dufnin Syndicate) J Bennetl 5-10-12 D J Ramaragh IS 294P-62 DARBIES (KING 15 (F.S) (Cleme Sadies) (K Bofton 7-10-12 — T Cascombe 1313-23P (D.LEANEY CARR 13 (F) (Mass J Semple) J Gifford 6-10-12 — P Hida 0P111-0 SR DANTE 12 (BF,FS) (P Wilby) R Rose 6-10-12 — D Bridgmeiter (140-0 SLETTMORE GALE 21 (F.S) (D Walsh) T McGovorn 7-10-7 — J A McCarthy

BETTING 4-5 Angelo s Double, 4-1 Sr. Danie, 7-1 Who Am 1 10-1 Allkaney Carr Caring King 20-1 others 1996: MELNIK 5-18-12 C Maude (9-1) Mas 4 Peneti 10 ran

FORM: FOCUS

Who Am I 54:1 4th of 8 to Dancentrouding in novice handicap chase at Worcester (2m 4) 110yd, soft) with Steetmore Gale (16b) before off) 35:7 fth Angelo's Double bealen a distance 6th of 8 to novice chase at Plumpton (2m 5! good to soft). Benji 48: 6th of 9 to Glendoe in novice handicap hurdle at Newton Abbol (2m 3!, good to firm). Daring King 7: 2nd of 8 to Ankano Manano in novice handicap chase at Follestione (2m, good) to Killeaney Carr pulled up in novice chase at Follestione (2m, good). Killeaney Carr pulled up in novice chase at Follestione (2m, good). Killeaney Carr pulled up in novice chase at Fonlied! (3m 21 110yd, good to soft). Sir Darita 30/7 th of 8 to Nashville Star in handicap chase at Windsor (2m, good), previously beat Saver Thyne 14! in 9-runner novice grade til handicap hurdle at Chellenham (2m 4!, good to soft). ANGELO'S DOUBLE looks a gud above these mail

2.30 LYMPNE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,490: 2m 6l 110yd) (12 runners) CAMPINE NUMICES HURDLE (£2,490: 2th 61 (10yd) (12 rumser:

024-61 CASEN FOR BASH 20 (6) (Capi A Prati) if foure 7-10-12 D Enthquater

APP1/5 CASH FOR BASH 20 (6) (Capi A Prati) if foure 7-10-12 D Enthquater

34211-0 CHARLE HAWES 20 (5) (Silver Morpit Enthquater) 5 Meter 8-10-12 C Webb (5)

30-2 FIN BEC 67 (A kmg) A P Jones 4-10-12 S Methell

4P- LORD ELLANGOWAN 3017-69 (6) (Blangouan Parsi if largam 4-10-12 R Thorston

5 MORGANS HELL 41 (Mrs. J Beston) O Stemood 5-10-12 L Lievellyn

F1- OLD DECENCY 324P (5) (M Blackburg in Hendeszon 6-10-12 M A Rizgardal

P2- ROCKHOLIN LAU 286P (Mrs. J Gross) O Gresself 5-10-12 J R Kavanagh

C3- SALAMAN 304 (Mrs. V O'Breen D O'Breen 5-10-12 D Esthy

5-4 TAPPERS KIMAPP 20 (N Chamberlan) O Stemand 5-10-12 J A McCarthy

5045-P2 BE MY MOT 7 (N Winchester & Son) D Grosself 5-10-7 B Ferton

TIME 5-2 Cheshy Charle 4-1 Tanners kname 9-2 Old Therapper R.1 Statumen (10.1 Ein Dan Macanagh) BETTING: 5-2 Cheely Charles 4-1 Tappers knapp. 9-2 Old Pecency. 8-1 Salaman. 10-1 Fin Bec. Morgans Hill 12-1 Be My Mol. 14-1 others 1996: ROUGH QUEST 10-10-12 M A Fittgerald (5-1) T Casey 14 ran

Cheeky Charife beat Cabochon 1 M in 8-numer handicap hordle at Folkesione (2m 8) 110yd, good). Fin Bec 9) 2nd of 18 in Gaffax in NH itsi race at Hunlungdon (2m 110yd, good). Lord Etangowan pulled up in novice hurdle at Longfield (2m 9) 110yd, soill) previously 884 4th of 10 to 7he Legiors Pride in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2) 110yd, good to firm). Margans Hill 371 5in of 11 to Scoring Pedigree in novice hurdle at Kempton (2m 5), good to firm). Salaman 171 3nd of 12 in Frentskip in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 6) 110yd, good). Smart Guy 801 15th of 16 to Sunday Venture in NH 18th race at Folkestine (2m 1) 110yd, good). Tappers Krapp 171 4th of 15 to Mad Harry in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 4), good) with Cash For Bash (levels). 34) 5th and Charlle Harves (hevels). 481 10th, Be My Mot 151 2nd of 7 to Farladel V in novice hurdle at Phumpton (2m 4), soil).

CHEEKY CHARLIE should be able to put his recent winning form here to good use

3.00 SHADDOXHURST HANDICAP CHASE (£2,768 2m) (7 runners) | CRITIC-1 FRIENDLY MONSHT 29 (D): G.S.1 (M. Johnson) Mr. A.E. Johnson 7-12-0 G Bradley 1943-P COURT MARTER 18 (D): 5 (Mr. 7 Leav.) R Buckler 9-11-12 B Powell 1971 (34-000 RCHII 12 (D): 5) (B) Sed & The Sequ. Purs.) Mr. I. Exclusir 9-11-2 M Rechards 20 (ED): 6,5 (Mr. A Woodrew) Mr. A Woodrew 14-10-4 J A McCardly 316-6-6 PEEMARME 20 (ED): 6,5 (Mr. A Woodrew) Mr. A Woodrew 14-10-4 J A McCardly 316-0-40 THILHOUL 13 (G.S) (C. Conwell R Rown 9-10-0 A Eartly 77 91 90-66 GERRETOWN 7 (Paralla Tage & Companies Ltml J Entrol 6-10-0 . . P Hide (JG)-4-P ONE MORE MAN 13 (B) (A Barry) Mrss L Bowel 6-10-0 . Mr R Watery (5)

BETTING: 11-8 Friendly Knight, 7-4 Court Master, 8-1 Thuhool, 12-1 Fiche, Georgebran, 14-1 paless. 1996: PEGMARINE 13-11-7 & Hogan (13-2) Mrs & Woodrow 7 ran

Friendly Knight heat Lobster Cottage 31 in 7-numer handicap chase at Windsor (2m. good to firm) with Pegmarine (14th better off) 311 6th Court Master pulled up in novice handicap burdle at Newbury good) Fichal beaten a declarice lest of 81 o Nashville Star in handicap chase at Exeter (2m 31 10yd good) Fichal beaten a declarice lest of 8 to Nashville Star in handicap chase at Windsor (2m. good) Thuhool 481 7th of 9 to Glendoe in novice handicap chase at Fortwell (2m. 2f. good to soft). Georgetown 621 6th of 8 to Get Real in novice handicap chase at Hustingdon (2m. 110yd, good) FRIENDLY KNIGHT can win this if he puts his best tool forward

3.30 WEATHERBY'S STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,256: 2m 1/ 110yd) (12 runners)

1996. GUIDO 5-11-4 N Wilhamson (12-1) Mics V Williams 17 ran

Ported Remark best Arcic Fusiker 41 in 16-tunner maiden hallar race at Utlogeter (2m. good). Annurarinan Sator gelding, hall-brother to Fitt and hurdler, within 15-tunner maiden hallar nace at Utlogeter (2m. good). Annurarinan Sator gelding, hall-brother to wrining Bumper Dense's Profiles. Cloudy Bill 901 15th of 16 to Conchobor in national hurtlial race at Worcester (2m. good to soft). Cougar Run Commanche Run gelding, trail-brother to a whining pulmer Dittopero 761 best of 6 to Poppy's Dream in NH list race at Utlogete (2m. good to min); previously 1541 2nd of 7 to Daranie in NH list race at Worcester (2m. good to firm). Sator of 7 to Daranie in NH list race at Worcester (2m. good to firm). Sator of 7 to Daranie in NH list race at Worcest (2m. good to firm). The NH list race at Worcest (2m. good to firm). POINTED REMARK returns after a long absence but has ability

> COURSE SPECIALISTS 25.0 22.7 21.7 20.0 19.6 15.6

trainers 28 44 23 15 46 32 P Winkworth A Jones N Henderson D Bridgwater M A Fitzgerald B Fenton J McCartin Mrss H Kraight J Gillord J McGovern

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Warwick Going: good 12:20 (2m hole: 1 Virtuoso (R Dunascody, 15-8 (sc)) 2 Yeen Cancer (12-1), 3, Tough Act (5-1), 20 cm NR Sespiel-De-Bouche Ras bow Sist 5-7 O Mann Tote 52:20, C1.30, 65-90 (2-10 OFF 521:20 Thorse 19-10 OFF 526-60) (12-55) (2m note, 1-10 Thorse 19-10 OFF 526-60) (12-55) (2m note, 1-10 Thorse 19-10 OFF 526-60) (13-50) (2-10 OFF 526-60) (2-10 OF

3.40 today).
3.30 (2m 3l hdle) 1, Ernest William (Michael Brenner, 10-1): 2, i Recall (7-1): 3, Young Tycoon (50-1), 4, Eta-Yis-Mou (8-1), Shadirwan 5-2 lav. 18 ran 13l, hd. G. Hubbard. Tole: C16.80; C3.80, C170, C12.00, C2.30, DF SS1.40, CSF: E79.07. Tincast: C3.156.95 Tino: 21.577.40 (part won. Pool of C244.40 carried forward to Hereford 3.40 today).

Newcastle

CSF- £172.96. Trior £423.80 (part won Pool of £477.59 carried lorward to Hereford 3.40 today).
3.30 (2m 31 hdle). 1. Ernest William (hichael Brennen, 10-1); 2,1 Recall (7-1); 3, Young Tyccon (50-1), 4, £1e, Yle-Mou (8-1). Shadiwan 5-2 lav. 18 ran 13, hd. 6. Hubbard. Toter £16.80, £3.80, £1.70, £12.00, £2.30. DF £81.40, CSF- £79.07. Thosai: £3.156.95. Trior £1.577.40 (part won. Pool of £244.40 carried forward to Hereford 3.40 today). Jackpot: not won. (pool of £3,640.28) carried forward to Folfestore today). Placepot: £1,246.10. Chaedpot: £253.30. NeWCastle Tecepot: £75.70. Quadpot £12.90.

Newton Abbot

Goting: heavy
12.20 (2m 110yd ch) 1. Well Timed (J Frost, 6-1): 2. Thursday Night (6-2): 3. Robars
Price (6-1) incisen Annow (4th) 2-1 fav. 9 ren
Hd. 13" R Frost. Tote 15: 10; £1.90, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £19.30 fno; £81.70. CSF: £21.85 Trosast. £154.89.
1,05 (2m 11 hale) 1. Sundey Secure (Mr S Durack, 3-1): 2. Perfect Pal (11-1): 3. Alphae Joher (4-1) Ultimate Smoothie (4th) 9-4 fav. 11 ran. £24.5 N. Chance, 10th £21.00, £29.00, £2.30 DF: £30.30 Trio: £47.30 CSF: £29.85. Ricest: £124.20
1.35 (2m 5i 110yd ch) 1. Supreme Lady (J F Tiley, events fav): 2. Peenf's Choice (7-1): 3. Forthyto Des (16-1), 10 ran. 134, 131
Mess H Knight. Toter £1.90; £1.30, £1.40, £2.80. DF: £7.30 Tno. £16.50. CSF: £8.28
2.05 (2m 5i 110yd ch) 1, Hold Your Ranks.

Placepot: £12.90. Quedpot: £2.90.

1 P61- SHREWD JOHN 316 (F,G,S) Mrs D Thomas 11-12-0

1.40 THYME HANDICAP CHASE

1981- SERVEND JUNES 316 (F.A.S.) 48-50 (I MORES 11-12-0)
2-231 JASON'S BDY 11 (CD.F.G.S.) J Bradley 7-11-3 R Johnston 113
3 AF3L SHIMBA HILLS 11 (BF.S) 6 McCourt 9-11-2 . D J MindStat 1171
45-2U KDD'S PROMISE 17 (F.S.) C Poptum 6-11-0 . M Williamson 112
5 D4P- SALCOMBE HARBOUR 271 (G.S.) P Pritchard 13-10-0
P Pitchard 103 10-11 Jaszo's Boy, 7-2 Kno's Promise, 4-1 Shimba Hills, 7-1 Shread John. 25-1

2.10 CARAWAY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,892; 2m) (9)

1 53-P WHISTLING BUCK 12 (D,S) 9 Lieughya 9-12-0 153-P WHISTLING BUCK 12 (D,5) 8 Lieueing 9-12-0 Mr J1 Lieueing 95
25505 VERDE LURA 7 (P, R Smith 5-11-13 ... X Azyama (5) 185
3-6-8F BULD AARE 15 (BS. 3) Baseley 7-11-10 ... R Johnson 185
4-PP2 THE SECRET GREY 17 (B) 0 McCain 6-11-3 ... T Jents 15-5-53 ASTRAL MYASON 19 (D,D) 7 Wait 6-10-13 ... T Jents 16-0-P 1-0-X CAMES 27 (D,D,5) 7 Wait 6-10-13 ... Gary (yours 6-10-14) PARKES 27 (D,D,5) 8 (Hoggan (3) 97
74-PU KNOWENS 11 (S) P Watter 10-10-7 ... D P Princhant 94-46-5 PRINCE DE BERNY 19 6 Ham 6-10-5 ... P Hotley 90-000 ARMATEUR 13 J McCannacine 9-10-3 ... S Wyme ...

2.40 ROSEMARY HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,822: 2m 10) (8)

3.10 CONFREY MAIDEN CHASE (£2,697: 3m 1f 110yd) (12)

11 111- TORDUFF ENTRESS 220P (C.S) P Install: 6-11-5 R Denwoody 13-8 Tordull Express, 5-1 Easy Breezy, 15-2 Raptime Boy 6-1 Ah Steich, Mester Mario, 18-1 Lancastrain Jel, Ridleg Crop, 16-1 others

3.40 CLOVES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2.122: 2m 3f 110yd) (10)

11145 LORD NITROGEN 11 (BF,D,F,G) B Limstyn 7-11-10 5-2 Lord Nitrogen, 3-1 The Plying Dactor, 7-1 Magnington Tamper, 5-1 Samble, Castle Arme, 10-1 Hir Tim Skd, 20-1 others

Saracens phardi

Kendall turns to Rosler after exchange deal fails

HOWARD KENDALL the Everton manager, confirmed yesterday that he will enter the transfer market before the weekend in an attempt to avert the deepening troubles at the club. In particular, Kendall is desperately searching for a forward who can end a goal drought that has seen his side fail to score in their past four games or record a win for two

After a day of frenzied activity, it appeared that Kendall had failed to persuade Derby County to lower their valuation of Dean Sturridge as part of an exchange deal involving Andy Hinchcliffe. Everton's England defender.

Instead, Kendall turned his attention to Manchester City and Uwe Rösler, a previous target. "Rest assured, I will be working this week trying to do some transfer business, hopefully in time for the game at Leicester this Saturday," he

"We are exploring all possibilities, we are looking at

BY RICHARD HOBSON

CHRISTIAN DAILLY, the

Derby County and Scotland

defender, will be out of action

until the middle of March

after fracturing his jaw in the

FA Carling Premiership game

against Bolton Wanderers on

Sunday. The extent of the

problem became apparent

after an X-ray late in the

evening and Dailly underwent

He was kicked accidentally

by Arnar Gunnlaugsson as he stooped to head the ball late in

the second half, but stayed on

to complete the game. Dailly,

24, a converted midfield play-

er, made a record 34 appear-

ances for Scotland at under-21

level and has become a regu-

lar member of the senior side

since his debut against Wales in May. He won his sixth cap

in the 2-1 defeat by France last

Dailly's injury compounds

game at Newcastle United finals.

surgery yesterday.

types of deals, we need to start scoring goals and I have to look. Everyone is well aware improve. We need to be more creative in midfield and get more goals.

team, but it's very difficult to find them and, when you do identify one, it's very difficult to persuade clubs to let them

The decision to pursue Rösler once more illustrates perfectly the financial contraints that have dragged the club to the foot of the FA Carling Premiership. At a heated annual meeting last week, Peter Johnson, the Everton chairman, explained that he had spent more than any other Premiership club over the past three seasons in an attempt to return Everton to their position of prominence of the Eighties.

There is only so much money we can make avail-

intended to rest Igor Stimac.

the captain, who recently re-

turned after an absence of two

months, while Jacob Laursen

Craig Brown, the Scotland

coach, has additional concerns

over Gary McAllister. The

Coventry City midfield player

faces an exploratory operation

on his right knee this week.

Ligament trouble is suspected

and McAllister will be out for

at least six weeks. Scotland

begin their preparations for

the World Cup finals with a

friendly at home to Denmark

Aljosa Asanovic has told a

newspaper in his native Cro-

atia that he wants to leave

Derby to rejoin Hadjuk Split.

Asanovic signed by Derby

from Split for £950,000 shortly

before the European champ-

ionship last year, has been

made available for transfer

on March 25.

is still suffering with a knee

Dailly injury adds to

Derby defensive woes

have to sell before he could "Everybody would like a proven goalscorer in their buy, but the Everton supporters have expressed their outrage that it seems that leading figures such as Hinchcliffe,

Gary Speed, Nick Barmby and even Duncan Ferguson are the ones to be made Kendall attempted to pacify them with his deal to get

manager will have to look at

his squad and devise means of

bringing in the players we

That was taken as a clear

indication that Kendall would

Sturridge and ease a problem that has seen Danny Cadamarteri, the teenage forward, used as the only pos-sible replacement for the suspended Ferguson. Derby valued Sturridge at £8 million and required £4

million plus Hinchcliffe to complete the deal. Despite efforts to resurrect the transfer esterday, Kendall does not have that sort of money and was forced to turn his inquiries towards Maine Road instead, where hemay have better luck. Rösler has yet to sign a new contract and becomes a free agent in the summer, when he could move without City receiving a fee. That has seen his price slashed from £2 million to a more affordable, for Everton. £750,000.

Rösler is keen to stay in England and return to the Premiership, where he made such an impact with City in his first season, when he scored 20 goals and became an instant favourite with the City supporters. After falling out with Alan Ball, the manager who replaced Brian Horton, who signed Rösler, the German forward became unsettled. He has made infrequent appearances this season. Kendall sees Rösler as the perfect solution to his situation. He is a proven goalscorer and, more importantly, would be welcomed by unhappy supporters for his

The feeling persists, however, that time is running out for Kendall, who was only appointed in July. Johnson has told him that he must produce results on the limited resources available and that other managers, such as Joe Kinnear, of Wimbledon, survive admirably.



Greg Rusedski and Denise Lewis have won the Sports Writers' Association of Great Britain sportsman and woman of the year awards. Rusedski, the BBC Sports Personality of the Year, is the first tennis player to receive the SWA honour. Photograph: Adrian Sherratt

Australia show healthy recovery rate

The Confederations Cup. now under way in Saudi Arabia, may be dismissed as another of the follies of João Havelange, the president of Fifa, robbing clubs of leading players at a crucial point of the season, but at least it has given Terry Venables and his Australia team the chance to distinguish

A goalless draw with Brazil on Sunday was a considerable achievement. Inevitably, the Australians were under seige for much of the game, but Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, was impeccable and, when Flavio Conceicao did beat him, the shot hit the

An ecstatic Dave Hill, chair-

man of Soccer Australia, spoke of "the exceptional na-ture of Venables" and of "redemption", referring presumably to their somewhat unlucky elimination from the World Cup by Iran. Venables was "absolutely himself delighted". He said: "Brazil are a difficult team to beat and we earned the result." He also spoke of chances

they created, which brought a somewhat sour retort from Mario Zagallo, the veteran Brazil coach: "I don't think we are talking about the same match, or maybe I was in a different stadium.

Tight marking limited the scope of Brazil's two formidable strikers, Ronaldo and chosen in attack. The feud at Valencia between Romário and Claudio Ranieri, the coach, who has refused to pick him, has displeased Zagallo. Edmundo, known as The

Animal", was not chosen for the tournament, but is leading Vasco da Gama's attack in their Brazil championship play-offs against Palmeiras and is inevitably up to his neck again in controversy. In São Paolo on Sunday,

yellow card meant he would miss the second leg in Rio de Janeiro next Sunday. So, he got himself sent off near the end, which means Vasco can appeal and he can play in the return game! After the 0-0 draw in São Paolo, another BRIAN GLANVILLE



Overseas View

end of this month, Edmundo is due to join Fiorentina, whose new manager, Malesani, may have mixed feelings on the subject.

In Italy, Internazionale consolidated their leadership of Serie A with an easy 3-0 win against an AS Roma team that had two men sent off, one of them the talented young to tap in the third goal and Ronaldo and Maurizio Ganz were hardly missed. Ganz, having turned down a lucrative contract with Rangers, is now due to join Inter's great rivals, AC Milan, a transfer that Massimo Moratti, the Inter president, has termed "in bad taste". However, since the Bosman ruling means that Ganz could move for nothing at the end of the season, there was little that Inter could do about it.

Milan will pay £2 million for the 29-year-old, but have pocketed more than double that from selling the abrasive Holland midfield player, Edgar Davids, to Juventus pure profit as, thanks again to Bosman, they picked him up for nothing from Ajax. Juve will now be able to use

him in the quarter-finals of the European Cup. Perhaps Nicola Amoruso will have recovered by then for the serious injury that he suffered at the San Siro against Milan last month.

The young striker comdraw would give Vasco the striker, Francesco Totti. Ivan plained bitterly about the Bundesliga we have to adjust title. Remember that at the Zamorano, of Chile, returned appalling state of the pitch,

which he said was wholiv responsible for his plight. The foul given against Alessandro Costacurta, the Milan centre back, was, Amoruso said, quite unjustified. His agent is threatening to sue the stadium's administrators, but the pitch was doomed from the moment that it was greedily decided to build an extra tier around the stadium for the 1990 World Cup. Since then, the winds cannot get at the playing

In the Bundesliga, Kaiserslautern, the leaders, were surprisingly beaten 2-0 at Hertha Berlin, while Borussia Dortmund's league form is in bleak contrast with their European performances. They were beaten 4-2 at lowly Cologne, where three of the home side's goals went to Anton Polster, the Austria centre forward.

surface.

Stefan Freund, one of Borussia's Germany internationals, said loftily: "We have had some fabulous experiences internationally of late, but forget that in our view downwards."

SNOW REPORTS

the defensive problems facing and says he would prefer to

Jim Smith, the Derby manager, before the Premiership build-up to the World Cup

		Depth	_			Wea		
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Mayrhofen	10	65	good	powder	closed . 14 lifts op	cloud	0	15/12
Obergurgi	50	90	good	powder	good iixed visiibliii	cloud	-8	15/12
FRANCE	-		,,			.,,,		
Alpe d'Huez				veried	art machines ir	fair	-8	12/12
Chamonix	· 5	45	fair	powder	closed reasonable	fine	-3	13/1
Flaine (30	120	good	powder	fair	fadr	-9	15/1
Tignes	60	130	fair	powder	e good skii art	SHOW	-11	15/1
Val Thorens	40	90	good	powder	snow availa fair stes: very co	tair	-8	14/1
ΠALY			·					
Livigno				varied	fair nd skiing ov		-9	13/1:
SWITZERLAND		-	-		•	•		
C Montana	5		fair now and	powder	closed ove 2,200m		-7	14/1
Grindelwald	30 "	60	tair	powder s in good	closed	doud	-5	14/1
Klosters	45	105	good	powder		fine fine	-9	14/1
Verbier	10 `	100	good	powder		fine	-9	14/1
Wengen	20 ₍₁	40 Good s	tair now end	powder skiing ab	closed ove 1,600m	tair nj	-6	14/1.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

EGAL INC.

Company Number 03229026
THE INSULVENCY ACT 1986
DOCTOR EDECAL LIGHTED
Registered address:
1 Pepubetion Row,
Petier Lane,
London RCAA 3BA
NOTICE IS HEREBY GEVEN
persuant in Section 98 of the
Insolvency Act 1986 that a
meeting of credition of the above
company will be baid at 24 Bevia
22nd December 1997 of 1,100
a.m. for the purposes provided
for in Section 100 and 101 of the
said Act.

"Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.

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am. for the purposes newtood for its Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.

The restaintions to be taken at the mastring include a resolution agreedying the teams on which the John Ligadistrour are to be remunerated and that the meeting may seekly information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of 25 them and convening them is multiple to emble a carelitor to the property of the carelitor a creditor to the property of the carelitor a creditor to the property of the carelitor as resident to the contract of the contract

LEGAL NOTICES

ATHI FTICS BRIDGNORTH: Stropshire crose-country chempionships: Men (11km): 1, A Power (1etinot) 35min 55sec; 2, I Coupland (reford) 3704; 3, C Daves (Tetinot) 37:35. Teams: 1, Tetinot 24pts. Women (5 Skm) 1, A Whight (Birchield) 19:51, 2, Y High (Burchield) 19:51, 2, Y High (Burchield) 2494, 3, C Gerdner (Tetinot) 22:45. Teams: 1, Tetinot 18pts. (Tetlord) 22:45. Teams: 1, Tetlord 18;0s. BRIGHTON: Sussex cross-country championships: Men (7.5 miles): 1, P Davoren (Brighton and Hove) 40:7sin 31:sec; 2, N Cales (Brighton and Hove) 40:3si; 3, K Holland (Crawley) 40:56 Teams: Brighton and Hove (Problers) 17:rs. Women (3.5 miles): 1, C Herbert (Arens 80, holder) 22:07; J Harrop (Havarif) 22:32; 3, W Holden (Lewes) 22:43 Teams: 1, Arena 80 40pts.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 87 Derby Storm 72. BUDWESSEH LEAGUE: Birmingham Bul-leta 87 Derby Storm 72.
UNI-BALL TROPHY: Shaffield Strarks 65.
Newcastle Eagles 68; Chester Jets 68.
Lecaster Roters 98. Ouestler-food claw,
Newcastle Eagles v Birmingham Bulleta,
Leopards v Tharmes Valley Tigers; London
Towers v Manchester Giants; Sheffield
Sharks or Westland Royals v Lecaster
Riders. Piciers.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Sealite
107 Los Angeles Cippers 101: Sacramento
89 Atlanta 93: Vancouver 110 Houston 105:
Los Angeles Leters 119 Dalles 89.

BOWLS CS INSURANCE NATIONAL FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP: Cuarter-lineis: Belardie bt Arbroath 19-18: East Lothran br Portobello 21-18: Paissey bt Irvina 25-17. Galleon bt Winteinch 21-16.

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GLASGOW: Scottish women's Indoor championships: Singles: Semi-linsis: C McAlister (Lochwinnoch) bit A Thomson (Dundee) 21-14; M Lemam (Blendrey) bit E Anderson (Arbroeth) 21-4. Finet: McAlister bit Letham 21-11. Pains: Semi-linsis: Stonehaven bit East (Birdide 24-17; Dundee bit West of Scotland 18-15 Finet: Stonehaven bit Dundee 30-11. Triples: Semi-linsis: Cowel bit East (Birdide 18-9; Stonehaven bit Tevototale 14-13; Finat: Cowel bit Stonehaven bit Tevototale 14-13; Finat: Cowel bit Stonehaven bit Belbardie 30-13; Arbroath bit West Lotteen 28-13. Finat: Edinburgh bit Arbroath 19-17

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TOUR MATCH (find day of four):
Devomport Tasmana 535-5 dec and 27-0;
South Alticans 402-8 dec (W J Crone 165, A Donald 55 not out, M V Boucher 55, M W Ridgway 4-105];
SUPPRISPORT SERRES (final day of four):
Johannesburg: Gauteng 361 and 252-5 dec, Bonder 216 and 256 (B C Fourie 57, B M Whate 51; C E Esteen 4-82; Gauteng win by 163 rurs Paart: Boland 165 and 265; Western Province 121 and 242 (L D Ferrera 69; R Telemachus 5-52) Boland wan by 67 rurs
WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: Mohan Nagaz-India 175-7 (J van Noostwij 4-25); Holland 82-9 india win by 93 rurs. Chendigent: New Zeazerd 253-9 (D Hockley 100); West Indias 55 (K Withers 4-5), New Zeatand wan by 198 rurs.

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: BCCA National Trophy (third round, Braunstone Park, Lecester, 12 males) 1, N Craig (Dearword Back) the Original Science, 28 Craive (Team Raisegt) at 29ec, 3, S Blunt (Ace RT) at 12sec. Overalt 1, Carke 1349s. 2, Burnt 113, 3, 6 Foord (Scott International) 109, Irlah champion-

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H.M. Land Registry

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FOR THE RECORD

ship (Watersport Centre, Creigevon, Co Armagh, 11 miles): 1, R Seymour (Sachs-Gent) 11r (Zenin (Zesec, 2, C Brach) (Cycleways) at 3:17:3, A McDonald (Apollo CT) at 7:38. West Kent RC (Durenth Country Park, near Darthord, 12 miles): 1, M Bell (London Fire Brigade CC) 55min Ozsac; 2, M Fuller (Darthord Wheelers) at 12:0:3, B Cutils (Condon) at 12:2 Dies and District CC (Redignave, Norfolk, 13 miles): 1, C Thompson (Bruy Cycles) 55min 42:ec; 2, C Devey (Octagon VC) at 34:sec; 3, N Ainsworth (Pro Caruli) at 1:47. New Forest CC (Crow, Fingwood, 11 miles): 1, N Paridnson (Boumemouth Jubilee Wheelers) 57min 12:ec; 2, S Bowers (Dorse Rough Riders) at 15:sec; 3, W O'Calleginen (Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers) at 51:sec; 2, S Bowers (Dorse Rough Riders) at 15:sec; 3, M Cyclesinen (Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers) at 51:sec; 2, S Bowers (Dorse Rough Riders) at 15:sec; 3, M Robinson (Coveland MBC) at 1:10 Chemy Valley RT (Fubbards Hill, Louth, 10 miles): 1, N Bowers (Dorse Louth) 3:35. Golden Valley CC (Manares (Coventry Olympic) 57min 53:sec; 2, S Bowers (Dorse Luncoln) 3:35. Golden Valley CC (Manares Lacy, mear Harsdord, 11 miles): 1, M Larnes (Coventry Olympic) 57min 53:sec; 2, G Poupert (Worcester St John's CC) at 3:46; 3. S Bernett (Feam Crange) at 5:27. Shallesbury CC (Soucester Park, Basidon, 11 miles): 1, C Davey (Octagon VC) 11 r 00min 00sec; 2, G Bevens (Abergaventy RC) at 2:00; 3, M Thomas (Swansaa CC) at 1 kp. South Western CCA (The Turnes, Beith, 9 miles): 1, J Richardson (Team Sports Coaching) at 2:05. Title: TRAL: Chesterfield Spire RC (Parky, North Nottinghamshire, 10 miles): 1, A Romans (CC) (The Turnes, Beith, 9 miles): 1, J Richardson (Feat Bradior CC) 20:55: 3, G Dighton (Leo RC) 20:57. ROAD RACES: Labcastershire RC Christman hendicap (Foctingham Fores) 4 Wheelers) 11 R Hammond (Palmars) 58min 00sec; 2, C Gener (Coatrille Wheelers) 11 R Hammond (Palmars) 58min 00sec; 3, P Doherly (West Daylon, MBC) at 3:58 server (Econiville Wheelers) 10 souch 10 server (Poctingham CC) 4 server (Coatrille Wheelers) 11 R Hamm

FOOTBALL DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern divi-

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Cheimston D Waymouth 3. FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bohemens 2 Dundelk 0; Cork 1 Drogheds 1; UCD 1 Deny 2. FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: Netional division: Ansensi 9 Wentbley 1; Milwell 1 Doncaster 2. Northern chinsion: Amold 0 Blyth Spartans 3, Aston Ville 3 Garswood St. Helens 4. Huddensledd 8. Booweh 2. Southern division: Rushden and Demonds 1 Whitehawk 16. ITALIAN LEAGUE: Vicenza 1 Forentina 5 GERMAN LEAGUE: VIL Bochum 0 Bayer Leverkopen 0. SPANISH LEAGUE: Tenerile 2 Abblico Madrid 2. PRENCH LEAGUE: Paris Samt-Germain 1 APACHASH LEAGUE: Paris Sant-Germain 1
Machd 2.
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Emisates 1 South Almon 0. Uniquisy 2 Coach
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ARGENTANAN LEAGUE: Rossino Central
4 Independiente 0; Grimassa Le Pieta 3
Newell a Cid Boys 2. Lanus 1 Gurnassa
July 0; Deportivo Espanol 2 Sen Lorenzo
6; Huracan 1 Vetez Sarsidiot 1; Union 1
Argantinos Juniors 0; River Pieta 2 Colon 1;
Girmassa y Tino 0 Boota Juniors 1,
BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Final, Sist
leg: Palmeiras 0 Vasco da Garria 0.

Invicte.

☐ Ties to be played January 17, 1998 ICE HOCKEY

RUGBY UNION The Times Students

European championship Pool three Candill Inst 107 Queen's, Belfast 10 Cardiff Institute: Triee: Thomas 3, Well 3, Williams 2, Cooper, S Jones, P Jones, Budgett, Vobe, Short, Coole. Congr. Vobe 7, Wilbarns 5. Dropped gost: Vobe. Con: University, Bellast: Try: Weir. Con: Harron. Pen: Harron.

Edinburgh University: Tries: Bloby, Gri-filtrs. Corst Barko 2. Prant: Barks 2. Exeter University: Tries: Griffiltrs. Gordon Duff. Corr. Ashton. Dropped goal: Morgan. (at Lianumney)

Oldord University: Tries: Grewcock 2, Woodline 2, Van Riemen, Const. J Booth 4. Penst. J Booth 3. Bristol University: Wilson, Robinson Cont. Goode. Pert. Goode. (at Mardyke)

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP: First round:
Sale 5 Cithon 7: Swenoeks 0 Waspe 122: St
Albere 10 Leeds 22; Dover 0 Canterbury
72: Technodon Anthera 57 Shelford 15;
Pichmond 35 Lichfield 22; Sudbury 17
Liverpool St Helens 5; Mediway 0 Wasenoo
87: Novocastrians 12 Albon 19: Notingham
Casuals 5 Old Learningtonians 35; Worcestext 12 Crawley 5; Lekenham and Hewitt 12
Blackheath 10. SCHOOLS MATCHES: Eastbourne 32 Hurstplerpoint 5, RGS Worcester 17 King's, Worcester 7; Whitgitt 13 Ampleforth 19.

SNOOKER

VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: Merr. First division: Croiton Sportswearhouse 3 Weesex 2 (15-12, 9-15, 10-15, 15-9, 15-9); Leads 3 Stretfield 2 (9-15, 15-11, 9-15, 15-12, 15-13); Liverpool 3 Stoles 2 (8-15, 11-15, 15-8, 18-14, 15-12; Whitfield 0 Tooting Aquits 3 (13-15, 12-15, 11-15); Polonise Eeling 3 Melory Levisham 2 (8-15, 7-15, 15-9, 17-16, 18-14).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-aff 7:30 unless stated " denotes all-ticket Besingstoke v Northampton (7.45)
Boreham Wood v Chelterham
Chesterfield v Grinsby (7.45)
Hereford v Colchester (7.45)
Notis County v Preston (7.45)
Watford v Torquay (7.45) Bell's Scottish League Second division

Clyde v Queen of South Spalding Cup Quarter-finals

Hayes v Ygont (7.45)
Morthwich v Hischestord (7.45)
DR MARTTENS LEAGUE: Premier division:
Alberstone v Worcester City. Dorchester v Stringbounts; Nuseaton v Gloucester Southern division: Clevedon v Waterloovika. Cur: Second rotund: Bath v Newport (relw) (7.45): Buston Ablon v Moor Green; Cambridge City v Hendley Uts (7.45): Heatings v Margate (7.45): Structindige v Schuli.
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortland v Hendley Uts (7.45): First division: Abrogdon Town v Wearbley, Hermston v Bognor Regis. Second division: Bearinge v Witharm Horsham w Wealdstone. Third division: Wingste and Finchley v Conthisen-Casuels: Full Methods Cap: Second round: Leaferhead v Chettsey. Associate Members Trophy: Second round: Aleigher v Chettsey. Associate Members Trophy: Second round: Aleigher Pers division: Congleton v Droyleden. Cup: Third cround: Alirhoham v Colleys Bay: Blyth Spartans v Friddey; Manne v Runcom. Uniting, first division Cup: First round: Alirhoham v Colleys Bay: Blyth Spartans v Friddey; Manne v Runcom. Uniting, first division: Amenda v Ipasich (2.0); Coystal Palace v Lutan (at Plaugh Larse, 2.0); Milleral v Chetton (2.0); Cuseas Park Rengers v Portsmouth (at Lotus Road, 2.0).

GUARDIAN INSURANCE CUP: Third round: Cerney Island v Historic Cerebation v Bitericay (7.45); Rominot v Browley (7.45); Rominot v Browley (7.45); St Albers v Bedford T (7.45); Wokingham v Welton and Hersham (7.45). ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE Cupt Second round: Tow Law v Laws Welton LEAGUE: Cup: Second round: Tow Law v
Jarrow Roofin;
WRISTONLEAD KIENT LEAGUE: First
division: Siede Green v Steppey;
Whistoble Town v Folkestone invoica.
Gil BERT LEAGUE CUP: Second round,
second leg Pineyader Town v Barry.
SOREWRX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier
division: Mengodraded Und v Peulston R.
CALOR COUNTY ANTRIM SHIELD: Cuerter-finals: Distillery v Balydere; Dundela v
Lame; Littled v Cattonwile; Portadown v
Crusaders.
MENERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS
LEAGUE: O'Brien Batchers premier division Cup: First found, first leg; Herefield
v Barkingside; London Colrey v Buctengham Arbeit; Westham Abbey v Brook
House.

HOUSE, WESTERN ADDRY V BROOK
HOUSE, ENDSUEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND
COMEINATION: Prevaler division: Chestyn
Hay v Knowle. COMBINATION: Premier division: Chestyn Hay v Knowle.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEA-GUE: Premier division: Disa v Woodshidge Town; Wrochen v Greet Yamouth.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Rist division: Lymington v Gasport; Andover v Easteigh: Bournemouth v Totton: Winborne v Tratchern Town.

FA CARLSBERN VASE: Third-round replays: Histon v Brook House; Sudbury Window Camberley Town.

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Manchester City v West Bromesch.

RUGBY UNION Alied Dunber Premierahip First division Richmond v Laiceatar (S.D.

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: European Cup: Rhondort (Ger) v London Towers (7.30). **SWIMMING**

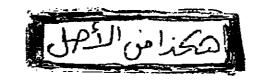
Britain in right spirit to take on the world

By CRAIG LORD

AN EMPHASIS on relay teams and their importance to creating team spirit in what is essentially a sport of individ-uals has swelled the Great Britain team for the world championships, in Perth, Australia, next month, to 32, the largest squad to be entered for the four-yearly event.

James Hickman, the world short-course champion over 200 metres butterfly, whose illness at the European championships in August denied him automatic qualification for Perth, is the only one of ten additions selected for individual events.

Deryk Snelling, the national performance director, said: "I want six swimmers qualifying for all six relay teams, so we have two reserves in each case and no one's place is safe. That gives us so many more swimmers with a chance of finalling and medalling at a major championship and helps bond the team. That's the team spirit element of swimming." The men's 4 x 200 metres team, the European champions, is strengthened by the addition of Mark Stevens, of the University of Bath. Stevens won the 100 and 200 metres titles at the British championships last week.
GREAT BRITAIN TEAK Men: A Cleyton (University of Bath): M Foster (University of Bath): M Foster (University of Bath): M Harris (Tower Hamilets): J Hickman (Slockport Metro): R Maden Rochole Agustosers): G Meedows (Chy of Lands): D Mew (University of Bath): Peakner (University of Bath): Pakner (City of Edithurgh). N Shacked (Millish): G Smith (Slockport Metro); M Speckmen (University of Bath): M Wiley (Barnet Copthail): I Wilson (Chy of Leeds): Women: J Selton (City of Bath): M Wiley (Barnet Copthail): I Wilson (Chy of Leeds): J Craig (Haverhil): H Oon-Duncan (Astron Central): C Foot (York Cay Bath): L Hindmarsh (City of Leeds): V Homer (Slockport Metro): C Huddart (City of Leeds): J King (University of Bath): K Legg (Femdown): M Merchall (South Uniconshin): M Pedder (Portsmouth Northsee): K Pickering (Ipswich): S Price (Barnet Capthail): S Rolph (Cay of Newcastle): K Sendon (Portsmouth Northsee). metres titles at the British



RUGBY UNION:

Saracens lead the upward march of game's new order

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

land of Rob Smith, Pat Fox and Phil Keith-Roach have

All three are key members of the Wasps coaching panel

and were required by England

to look after the A team, the

conditioning and the scrum-

maging respectively. The ab-sence of compenitive rugby may not have been crucial, as

Saracens and Newcastle dem-

onstrated, but if the quality of

work done in training de-

clined due to the absence of

management personnel, the individual clubs would be

obliged to monitor the situa-

with Bath. They may have been without Mike Catt when

they lost 50-23 at Vicarage

Road on Sunday, but they still

fielded 13 internationals,

many of whom allowed them-

selves to be pulled around the

pitch with a naivety that can

It could be argued that

minds may have been on this

Saturday's Heineken Cup

semi-final with Pau (who also

lost their French champion-

hardly be imagined.

Yet that was not the case

tion even more closely.

affected Wasps?

IT HAS taken them more than a year, but the money spent by Saracens and Newcastle seems to have broken the stranglehold on English rug-by exerted by Bath and Leicester — and, to a lesser degree, Wasps.

That the old order is chang-ing has been apparent this season, the only query being whether the newcomers can sustain their charge to the top or whether their bubble will burst. With two-thirds of the premiership season still to go, neither Saracens nor Newcastle will be making brash predictions, but already they have shown the kind of quality that has garnered in the points from which confidence grows.

But are Bath, Wasps and Sale - contenders for Europe and cup finalists last season but beaten by 50 points at Leicester over the weekend declining forces, or did special circumstances attend their most recent games? Bath and Wasps played uncharacteristically badly, whereas Sale, when they had the ball, played to some effect at Welford Road. Their problem was that Leicester allowed them such

meagre possession.

John Mitchell, the director of rugby at Sale, admitted that his absence with England for most of November had not helped, but added sternly: "I expect professional players to prepare themselves properly. We have lost momentum after starting November on a high." But, if Mitchell's absence affected Sale, how much more

Prop Clohessy returns for injury-hit Ireland

PETER CLOHESSY, sus-pended by Ireland for 26 weeks in 1996 after a stamping incident against France, returns to international rugby on Saturday (David Hands writes). Clohessy, the Young Munster, tight-head, prop. Paul Wallace in the team to play Italy in Bologna, his seventeenth appearance.

It was Wallace who benefited when Clohessy withdrew at the eleventh hour from the British Isles' tour to South Africa this summer because of a back strain. Wallace, who played for the full side that won the series, sustained a calf injury against Bath on

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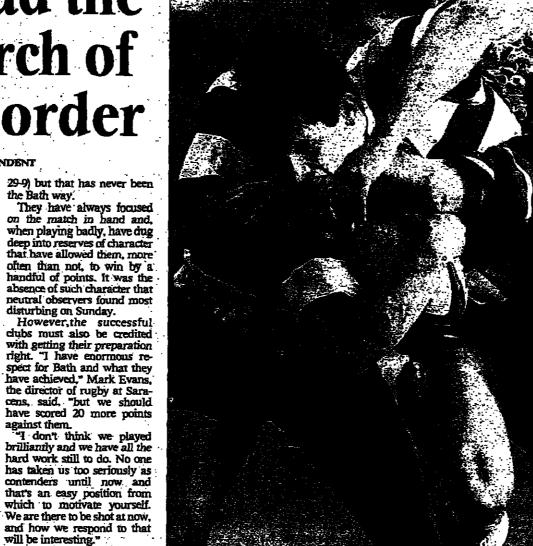
宇宙学 ***-

30-5

Mary Mary Company

Injuries to Rob Henderson and Kieron Dawson have induced further changes to the midfield and back row. Henderson suffered a groin strain near the end of Wasps' defeat by Harlequins but hopes to play again alter a fortnight's Kevin Maggs, whose removalfrom the wing allows Darragh O'Mahony of Moseley to win his third cap, two years after his first two.

Dawson has an injured ankle and is replaced in the back row by David Erskine. giving Ireland two Sale flankers; Erskine will play on the blind side with Dylan O'Grady moving to the open



Thorpe, of Exeter, is held up close to the line against Edinburgh yesterday

Vobe leads Cardiff rout

learn from the school of hard CARDIFF Institute set out their stall as the Times Student European Rugby Chamreference to the demanding pionship got under way yesterday. Cardiff host one of "We learnt so much from the first year of full-time training. We have stayed rela-tively injury-free and we have the four pools, but the welcome they extended to Queen's, Belfast was less than hospitable. They ran 16 tries past their plucky visitors in a 107-10 rout. There were hattricks for Graham Thomas and Chris Wall, while Gethin Vobe scored 22 points with a

> dropped goal. Gareth Cooper, who was the Wales Schools scrum hall last season, claimed a brace, including a spectacular effort from within his own 22.

> try, seven conversions and a

absent on Ireland duty, and Cardiff play their Saturday rugby in the first division of the Welsh League and the Richmond are without fitness and pace that such Spencer Brown, their England standards demand proved too A wing, who damaged a cheekbone in the win over much for Oueen's, who nevertheless persevered to register their only try in the 71st

Cardiff will not be unduly



concerned, either, by events in the concurrent fixture in their Exeter. Edinburgh deserved to shade a dour contest 20-17. Both sides scored two tries, Richard Bibby and Richard Griffiths for Edinburgh and Paul Griffiths and Torquil Gordon-Duff for Exeter.

Ian Banks's kicking proved decisive for Edinburgh, but neither team were expected to achieve anything like the levels of performance that might have given Queen's something approaching hope in their efforts to live with the

In Cork, a powerful Oxford team proved too strong for Bristol, defeating them 42-17 in an open match full of running rugby. Seven tries were scored with Oxford providing five of them. Schalk van Reenan took the first, while Duncan Grewcock and Richard Woodbine scored two each. The Oxford forwards, still smarting from their defeat in the University match, dominated Bristol and a lot of possession was turned over their way as a result.

half-time and Oxford retained control of the match for the opening ten minutes of the second half, when a couple of Bristol tries would have been opportune. These were not to arrive however until midway through the second period. thanks to Danny Wilson and Toby Robinson, allowing the young Bristol side to take nothing more than pride form

Glasgow trying to bridge

the gap By Kevin Ferrie

GLASGOW District yesterday moved closer to achieving the type of structure that they believe they need to become truly competitive in Europe by selecting a 42-strong elite development squad.

This route is the one many leading figures in the game believe Scottish rugby must now follow, as agonising continues over the recent capitulation to Australia and humbling at the hands of South Africa.

Calls for the removal of the national coach, Richie Dixon, have been accompanied by renewed demands for a solution to the damaging clubs v districts controversy, which led to the compromised domestic schedule and to such an unsatisfactory preparation for the meetings with the southern hemisphere powers.

However, the overriding impression has been of a shortage of raw talent, leaving Scotland unable to compensate for the loss of several key

Keith Robertson, the newGlasgow coach, has pointed out how, in his native New Zealand, young players are drawn into the provincial set-up directly from school, rather than coming through the clubs. While eager to point out that they do not want to bypass the clubs, Glasgow's creation of this elite squad addresses the perception that players are arriving at representative level ill-equipped.

"Our aim is to provide selected players with the information and opportunities to develop into complete players with the physical and mental ability to represent Glasgow and Scotland," David Jordan. the Glasgow chief executive, said. That players in the senior district squad are not receiving that sort of preparation at the moment seems to be

underlined by the news of the resignation of John McHarg. coach of Kilmarnock Falcons. the district's third-highest placed club side.

"If they want to play a social style of rugby I have no problems with that, I just have no wish to be part of it." McHarg explained: Glasgow's elite group, in-

cluding players from under-18 ievei and a quarte ates from the under-21 squad, will take part in seven sessions between January and March, covering fitness, diet, psychology and laws, as well as oneto-one coaching.

☐ Scotland A will play Northern Transvaal in Glasgow on January 23. Scotland developed close links with the South African province when they were based in Pretoria for the 1995 World Cup.

Oldham to miss knockout challenge

E RUGBY LEAGUE: Oldham, who were Challenge Cup winners as far back as 1899, are being omitted from this season's competition. The decision to leave them out was taken after the Lancashire club went into liquidation and before the new club was launched.

Decisions had to be taken in early November when Oldham weren't in existence," Peter Rowe, a spokesman for the Rugby Football League, said. The other 18 first and second division clubs will join the 22 amateur survivors from this weekend's second-round ties in the third round on January 31.

National service

HOCKEY: Five players from England's 1996 European indoor championship gold medalwinning squad have been included in the training party to take part in the European indoor championship in Orense Spain from January 23 to 25.

Sue Knight, Sue Chandler, Michelle Liptrot, Mandy Nicholls and Sam Wright should all be confident of regaining their places when the final team is announced after training at Lilleshall on December

People's choice

■ TELEVISION: Greg Rusedski, Great Britain's No I tennis player, won the BBC Television Sports Personality of the Year Award.

Rusedski, 24, who was born in Montreal, but whose mother is English, was the runner-up at the US Open, reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon and climbed to No 4 in the world rankings, the highest position

The magic numbers of sport

By SIMON BARNES

MAGIC numbers and free champagne: what more could possibly be desired by anyone with sporting blood in the veins? Once again The Times is able to offer bottled bliss, in the form of Nicolas Feuillatte champagne, to anyone who contributes a Magic Number this Christmas.

A Magic Number is one sporting weight. Some numbers carry weight for all time, like Don Bradman's 99.94 or Torvill and Dean's 6. But every year throws up new

nambers. How about 78, 0, and 0? These are the numbers for Michael Schumacher: the 78 points he was docked for crashing into Jacques Villeneuve, the zero points he was left with and the zero fine he was given for this potentially lethal assault.

I will judge the numbers for their champagne-worthiness and entries should be sent to me at:

The Sports Desk, The Times,

l Pennington Street, London El 9XN or by fax to 0171 782 5211.

The final collection is to be published shortly after Christmas, so do it soon

34 Mansfield y Rochdale

SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

35 Aberdeen v Dundee U X 36 Duni mine v St J'slone :

FIRST DIVISION

37 Kilm k v Motharwell

38 Anthie v Partick 39 Dundes v Reith 40 Hamilton v Ayr 41 St Minten v G Monton 42 String v Pakirk

CONFERENCE

43 Gateshid v Kiddimili

ICE HOCKEY

Violence disfigures Panthers' success

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

THE unacceptable face of ice hockey was in evidence at Sheffield Arena on Sunday when the Steelers and Nottingham Panthers combined for 301 minutes in penalties and an incident early in the third period saw five players

Corey Beaulieu, Scott Alli-son and Mike Ware, of Sheffield, together with Kraig Nienhuis and Jeffrey Sebastian, of Nottingham, were sent packing after four minutes of the final session and, in a separate incident, Derek Laxdal and the Sheffield captain. Rob Wilson, were ejected with just under six minutes remaining.

What ice bockey there was in evidence was played by the Panthers, who won 50; the first time this season that the Steelers have failed to score at home Marty Dallman scored twice in the first period, Paul Adey and Gregg Hadden added second-period goals and Jamie Leach completed the scoring

with five minutes remaining. Newcastle Cobras also failed to score at home as they were beaten 4-0 by Manchester Storm. Cardiff Devils, the inaugural Superleague champions

last year, appear unlikely to

repeat their success. They were beaten 3-2 at home by Ayr Scottish Eagles and have lost four of their past six games. The teams scored once each in the first period, once each again in the second

and, after a scoreless third period, it took an overtime goal by John Parco to give the Eagles the points. They consolidated third place with this win while Manchester's success in Newcastle allowed them to maintain their two-point

margin over Nottingham

Panthers at the top of the

SNOOKER

Higgins sets off in pursuit of Hendry's world ranking

Similarly, Wasps, as league

winners last season, were there to be shot at and,

initially, their European cam-

paign suggested that they

were handling the problem

well; however, once they

started losing games and key players with injuries, they

were unable to turn the tide.

cups in the premiership at

Northampton and in Europe,

have more experience of deal-

ing with the hard times. "You

knocks." Duncan Hall, their

assistant coach, said, with

tried to align our training with

their youngsters in the Chel-

tenham & Gloucester Cup.

alongside their overseas play-

ers, with a beneficial effect.

Two of them, Lewis Moody.

tonight in the Allied Dunbar

Premiership game at Rich-

mond, though Eric Miller is

Austin Healey and Darren

Bristol but give a premiership

debut to Agustin Pichot, their

Argentina scrum half.

Garforth are rested.

Lescester have also played

that of England."

second half of last season.

Leicester, who suffered hic-

WITH cue problems a distant memory, confidence fully restored and a strict practice regime in place, John Higgins believes that he, as well as Ronnie O'Sullivan, can challenge Stephen Hendry's longheld status as world No I. replaced

Higgins replaced O'Sullivan, the recent winner of the United Kingdom championship, as Hendry's closest pursuer in the world rankings by beating John Parrott 9-4 in the German Open final at Bingen on Sunday.

"Now it is a matter of remaining focused and not slipping back into bad habits," Higgins said. "There is no way I am going to be content with this. I want to win more tournaments this season and build up for the world

championship." Bad habits for Higgins are not the normal vices associated with wayward sportsmen. He has nothing more sordid to confess than the expensive

mistake of taking success for granted after six world-ranking event victories between October 1994 and March of

this year.
I just wasn't putting in enough time on my game," Higgins said. "This summer I made the decision to work much harder, but now I realise I was only going through the motions. I went down to the club every day.



Higgins: confident again

the Grand Prix in Bournemouth in October and the Rothmans Malta Grand Prix last month also camouflaged the fact that, by his own standards, Higgins was performing well short of peak

efficiency. The penny eventually dropped after he lost to Gary Ponting in the last 64 of the United Kingdom championship four weeks ago. "It was my lowest point in snooker." Higgins said. "Thankfully, every cloud has a silver lining and at least that result gave me the kick up the backside !

needed." Higgins, 22, still trails Hendry by over 8,000 ranking points, but is determined to reduce the deficit. "Stephen is the guy everyone targets," he said. "Even though he hasn't fired so far this season, I will still have to be extremely consistent just to get close to him but I will certainly be having a go."

Saturday December 27 and Sunday December 28 Coupon No, Induse, forecast FA CAPLING PREMERSHIP

1 Bernsley v Derby 2 Blackburn v C Pala

SPORTS POLITICS

Institute remains central question

THE central consortium in the East Midlands remains the favourite to be chosen as the venue for the £160 million United Kingdom Sports Institute when the decision is made today.

After more than two years of debate and the arrival of a new Government with different views on the Institute, plans are in place to establish a network of facilities, backed with lottery money, to prepare British competitors for future Olympic Games and world

championships.

At the hub of the regional network of at least 12 centres will be the Institute, which will feature training facilities and generic services, such as sports medicine and sports science. Government ministers, led by Chris Smith, the Secretary for Culture, Media and Sport, and the United Kingdom Sports Council will decide today between the three short-listed candidates.

34 Macclesf d v Rochdale 2 35 Mansfield v Lincoln 2 36 Mots Co v Hartleccol 1 37 Peterboro v Boylcon 1 38 Rotherham v Hull 1 39 Scarboro v Berlington 1

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 4D Aberdeen v Motherwel

43 Rangers v Dundee U 44 St J'alone v Coltic

FIRST DIVISION

ably has the strongest support. It is spread over three existing venues: Loughborough University in Leicestershire, the national water sports centre just outside Nottingham and Lilleshall, the national sports centre in Shrooshire.

The Upper Heyford site in Oxfordshire is being promoted by the British Olympic Association (BOA). Its chances were reduced when the Govern-ment excluded the main British male team sports — cricket, football and rugby - from direct use of the former American air base, although they will use the generic services.

The bid from Sheffield is based on the £100 million worth of facilities used for the 1991 World Student Games. Venues include Ponds Forge, the most modern aquatic centre in Europe, the Don Valley athletic stadium, the Sheffield Arena and a national ice centre to be built with £12 million of lottery money.

POOLS CHECKS OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD

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17 Swindon v Bernigham 1
18 Turnmer v Orderd X
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22 Gentsby v Cariste 1
23 Lutan v Berstol R
23 Lutan v Berstol R
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25 North pton v Prymouth 1
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26 North pton v Prymouth 27 Weithard v Gengham 1
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28 Brightson v Streenbury 1 Seturday December 20 BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION SHERRING CHORRORY AS COURSING PREMIERSHIP 1 A VAN & SOUTH SCOTT 1 2 Business V W. Mart. 1 3 Durby V C. Pasco X 4 (arctic) BOTT 1 5 I architect & SOUTH 1 37 Cetic v Haemian 38 Dunder U v St. J'Stine 38 Hearts v Rangers 40 Klimani k v Abardean 41 Moth well v Dunimine a 4 (Anoth : Bister)
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Friday December 26 Coupon No, fatura, forecesi FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP 1 Arsenal v Leocater 2 Boton v Barnsky 3 Chelsaa v Wimbledon 4 C Paleca v Southipton 5 Derby v Nawcastle

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34 Barnet v Peterboro 2 35 Cambridge v Leyton OX 36 Cardiff v Essiar 1 37 Derfisjon v Maccillaritat 38 Doncester v Mansfeld X 39 Hartleppol v Scarboro 1 40 Hull v Chester X 40 Hull v Chester X 41 Lincoln v Rotharham 1 42 Rochdale v Shrausham VALIGHALL CONFERENCE 45 Chalainhara y Yeowi 1 48 Dower v Welling 1 47 Gathshead y Halifax 2 48 Hechesford v Ketteringt 49 Leck y Tetlord 1

THIRD DIVISION

3 Coventry v Man Utd 2
4 Eventron v Bolton 1
5 Leade v Asson VMa X
6 Laksester v Sned Wed 1
7 Totterhann v Assens 2
8 Winnbledon v W Hern X
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
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11 Bury v Crawe X
12 Man City v Naturn 1
13 Middlestrio v Stockport1
14 Ordord v Sunderland 2
22 Braster R Sourcement 1
23 Furthern V Bristol 2
24 Grantsby v Preston 2
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20 Bleckpool v Wrestram 21 Bristol R v Bournemith

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10 Crewe v Birmingham 1
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Seturday Jenuary 3 Coupon No, Induse, Iorecast FA CUP THERD ROUND

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29 Bleckpool v Bristol C 30 Gillingham v Sundey THRO DIVISION

TREBLE CHANCE (name teams): Barne-lay, Bristof Rovers, Peterborough, Queens Park Rengers, Rotherhern, Gallingham, Aberdeen, St. Mirren, String, Yeovil. PDISD ODDS: Homas: Arsenal, Derby, Sheffield United, West Brom, Exter BEST DRAWS: Bamsley, Bristol Rouers, Peterborough, Queens Perk Rangers, Aberdeen

PIXED CODS: Homes: Leeds, Liverpool, Narwich, Graneby, Brighton, Aways: Shel-feld Unded, Sundatend, Middlestrough, Drawer Portemouth, Reading, Hearts. TREME CHANGE FORE BATS, Dotte, Swinger Heart Heart Heart Heart Heart Heart Heart Heart Swing Heart Swing Toppole, House Falch SECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Botton, Lerpool, Sheffeld Wednesday, Charton, Huddersfield, Branton, Luton, Preston, York, Cambridge, Doncasser, Mal. FXED ODDS: Homes: West Hem. Stockport, Sundertend, Wrethern, Dathground he heard Christmans portal Limiterand

Aways: Manchester City, Sheffeld United, Cresterfold: Draws: Leerpool, Sheffeld Wadnesday, Brentlord. 9 Wright | par, surgetum, vinestum, surgetum, surgetum, surgetum, surgetum, vinestum, vinestum, surgetum, vinestum, surgetum, vinestum, surgetum,
3 Coventry v Man Utd 4 Eventon v Bolton 5 Leeds v Aston Villa 6 Leicester v Shell Wed

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Barrs-ley, Leads, Wimbledon, Bradiord City, Bury, Blackpool, Bristol Rovers, Grimaby, Chester, Ayr. BEST DRAWS: Barneley, Wimbledon, Bury.

PIXED ODDS: Homes: Birmingham, Swindon, Chesterfield, Southend. Rotherham. Aweys: Manchester United, Sunderland, Bristol City Draws: Bury, Blackpool, Chester.

Hollioake remains composed in tight finish

From Michael Henderson in sharjah

SHARJAH (England won toss): England heat Pakistan by eight runs

THRILLINGLY, yet expertly, England claimed their place in the Champions Trophy final after beating a Pakistan side that apparently had the game at their mercy. Eight runs in the end was as good as a country mile.
At 99 for two, with Saeed

Anwar and Ijaz Ahmed hitting the cover off the ball, Pakistan had only to bat out the overs. Even three wickets later, when Matthew Fleming came on. they needed 65 from 13 overs. nothing out of the ordinary. However, the England catching matched the bowling, and Pakistan went the same way as India, beaten by seven runs last Thursday.

Two moments were of supreme importance. Wasim Akram, short of form as he is. remains a big hitter and when he swung Adam Hollioake towards the leg-side boundary he looked up, expecting runs.

TABLE

England West Indies . Pakistan	3 2 3	1	1 2	6 2 2	+0.233 +0.233 -0.232
india .	2	0	2	0	-0.245

What he saw appalled him. Dougle Brown, picking up the flight of a ball he had "lost" in the floodlights two overs be-fore, took off to hold a superb catch a foot off the ground.

Manzoor Akhtar had batted with exemplary sense, and now was his chance to add a match-winning innings to the four wickets that he had taken earlier. His nerve failed him. Dropping the ball down to point, as Fleming denied him room to bash through the offside, he set off for a run nobody else could see, and returned to find that Nick Knight's throw had beaten

Pakistan could still have won. When the penultimate over began they needed 18. and Hollioake's failure to hit the stumps as he fielded off his own bowling conceded the single that gave Azhar Mahmood the strike. With successive halls he scored two. two and four, a thumping drive that bisected the men at deep cover.

Two more shots like that, and they were a single away

from victory. Hollioake, can-nily, held back the next ball and Azhar was through his stroke before it arrived. Up the ball went, higher and higher, eventually landing in Stewart's gloves as he ran from behind the stumps to take the catch near short mid-wicket and he wasn't done yet.

The next ball, the last of Hollioake's quota, Saqlain pushed at and then lurched from his crease, more in hope than expectation. What a fool he looked as Stewart leapt forward from his haunches gathered the ball and flicked it back into the stumps. Steve Bucknor, the square-leg umpire, called for a television replay but Saqlain was wandering off, surrounded by jubilant England fielders,

when the decision was upheld. For the second time in the tournament England had defended their total, in this case a modest one of 215 for nine. All the bowlers played a full hand. Brown and Headley struck with the new ball, Ealham recovered from an over costing 16 to bowl with his customary tightness, Croft took two important wickets and Hollioake's ability to restrict the batsmen at the death was truly outstanding.

For a while it all looked

rather different. Anwar, fresh from his hundred the day before, dazzled in going to fifty from 55 balls, and when Ijaz greeted Croft by blasting the second of his two vast sixes. Pakistan were beginning to make the target look very small. Then, in successive balls, Anwar played on, trying to cut, and Ijaz drove to longon. England had given themselves a second chance and how well they took it.

Their own innings fell away after Stewart and Alistair Brown had given them an excellent start. From i08 fo one in the 24th over they wer baffled by Manzoor's write spin and Saglain's more of thodox fingers. Their spir ners, three of them back-o the-hand merchants, wer responsible for bowling all bu 13 overs on a pitch that wa

being used for the third time England will not mind play ing on it once more. They hav won three games out of three and will not feel intimidate on Friday, whoever their or ponents are. Only this much certain: if West Indies beat India today they will go

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of knowledge



Stewart pulls to the boundary during his brisk innings of 47 yesterday

SCOREBOARD FROM SHARJAH

ın	Digital mar. mad
OF	ENGLAND
re	A D Brown c Moin b Sagisin 41
st	(47 bells, 1 stx, 4 fours) †A J Stewart b Menzoor 47
)T-	(68 bells, 2 sees, 3 fours)
n-	N V Knight b Manzoor 18 (36 balls)
of-	G A Hick b Manzoor40
re	(53 balls, 2 fours) G P Thorpe run out (taz/Moin)
ut	(4 balls)
3\$	"A J Hollinake c Shahid b Manzoor17 (27 balls, 1 four)
2	M A Eathern c and b Saqtain
y-	(15 balls) D R Brown not out
ve	(30 balls)
æ	M V Fleming c and b Saqlain
ed .	RDB Croft c ljez; b Saqlain
p-	(14 balls) D W Headley not out6
is i	(8 balls)
at	Edras (b 1, lb 4, w 7, nb 1)
	Total (9 wkts, 50 overs) 215

BOWLING: Wesim Aleram 6-1-34-0 (nb w 1; 1 six, 3 fours); Azher Mehmood 7-Score after 15 overs: 78-1.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-71 (Stewart 25), 2-108 (Knight 14), 3-121 (Hick 9), 4-126 †Moin Khan c Knight b Fleming. (19 bells)

"Waeirn Akram c D R Brown b Holitoeke _4
(19 balls)
Azher Methmood c Stewert b Holitoeke _12
(9 balls, 1 four)
Septian Mushtan run out (Stewart) ______9
(14 balls, 1 four)
Mushkan Ahmed not out _______0
(0 balls) no (105) nos (105, w 5, nb 2). Total (49 overs).... FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Asmir 1), 2-5 (Saect 4), 3-99 (kgz 41), 4-99 (Almar Sarins: 0), 5-134 (Manzoor 12), 6-152 (Manzoor 13), 8-165 (Admir 2), 0-207 (February 1), 8-165 (Admir 2), 8-165 (Admir POWLING (one spell each): D R Brown 50-29-1 (2 sizes, 1 four): Headley 80-33-1 (bb 2, 5 fours): Esitem 10-1-39-1 (w 1; 5 fours): Croft 10-1-39-2 (w 2, 1 six, 1 four): Hollicate 10-0-35-2 (w 1; 2 fours): Fleming 9-0-27-1 (w 1; 2 fours):

Match award: Marzoor Aktia Umphres: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and K T Francis (Sn Larke). Third Umphre: C J Mitchley (South Alnca). Reteres: P J F Burge (Australie). Compiled by Bill Frindall / Cricinio

Leng has recovered from a

twisted ankle and will play

today. Jan Brittin resumes her

6.30mm Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raebum 9.00 James Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

TELEVISION CHOICE

Solid second-hand advice

Channel 4, 8.00pm

This is the last in the series on buying and selling second-hand cars and a good moment to hall the success of what looked like an unpromising idea. The danger was limiting the appeal to the small number of car buffs while ignoring the great majority of motorists whose tastes are more mundane. In the event the show has managed to cater for both, so that tonight a Volkswagen Beetle convertible and a Triumph Spitfire share the billing with a humble Ford Piesta. Whatever the car there has been the fascination of discovering whether the seller finds a buyer and gets the asking price. But the undoubted stars have been not the machines but the straight-talking experts, Mike Brewer and Richard Sutton. If a model is prone to rust, or oil leaks or dodgy gearboxes, they have never flinched from saying so.

Vancssa's Day with . . . Channel 5, 8.00pm

Danny La Rue welcomes Vanessa Feliz to his glamorous Hampshire home for a pre-lunch glass of champagne, memories of Noël Coward and Judy Garland at his piano and reflections on approaching his 50th year in showbusiness. He may dismiss his act as "a feller in a frock" but he is still one of the best female impersonators around, as Southampton audiences will discover as he plays Baroness Voluptuous in Cinderella. The Mayllower Theatre is on the itinerary, as, less predictably, is the Roman Catholic church where Danny worships. He says he feels sad for people who have no religion. Face to Face this show is not and Feltz's hivviness can be cloying. But it is impossible to dislike a man overjoyed that he can go on stage at 70 and make people laugh. Danny La Rue welcomes Vanessa Feltz to his

Timewatch: In Search of Cleopatra BBC2, 9.00pm

Wittingly or not this profile of the Egyptian queen makes an ideal companion piece to the excellent I. Caesar series which has been running on Saturday evenings. In the course of I, Caesar we have met Cleopatra as the lover of Julius Caesar and Mark Antony but it is good to have a fuller portrait. The trouble is that so little is known about her, not least

Cleopatra on her death bed (BBC2, 9pm)

her appearance. She could have been the beautiful seductress as portrayed by Elizabeth Taylor, though Plutarch, for one, says not. She could though there is no evidence for this, have been black. Trying to separate sparse fact from liberal speculation, the film presents her as a clever politician determined to keep her beloved Egypt out of the clutches of the Roman Empire. When she failed she killed herself with a snake bite, though even that has been disputed. even that has been disputed.

Picture This: Accidental Hero BBC2, 9.50pm

BBC2, 9.50pm

Once again this unsung half-hour documentary series has come up with a gem. From the tragedy of the Herald of Free Enterprise, which capsized off Zeebrugge with the loss of 193 lives, there emerged one undisputed hero. Andrew Parker helped to save his wife, small daughter and a score of other passengers by making himself into a stepping stone across a six foot wide chasm. The media got to hear about him and the "human bridge" made headlines across the world. Parker was awarded the George Medal. But the film reveals him, more than ten years later, as a refuctant hero for whom than ten years later, as a refuctant hero for whom the experience has brought far more pain than glory. The media attention plagued him for three years afterwards and when it subsided trauma and depression set in. He was made redundant. As he tries to rebuild his life, he worries that he has still

The connection between individual writers and the

houses where they lived or worked has been done rather well in book form, but this is the first radio

series on the subject that I can recall. Four houses are featured, each visited by Iain Burnside, the pianist who is also an accomplished broadcaster.

There may be some surprise that the first house in the series is Maxgate, which was the home in Dorset of Thomas Hardy and which Hardy himself designed. One might have expected a less well-trodden path to be the first to be explored, but

on the other hand Hardy is perhaps the name most likely to attract a good audience for the opening programme. Each programme will have readings from the works of the writers.

Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

not managed to cry.

Radio 4, 2.30pm

Radio 2, 9.30pm I really must have a word with the Controller of Radio 2 about underlings who use grotesque distortions of the English language employed by the retail trade. But once you get past the title this is an entertaining hour which celebrates, if you will allow the word, the short British history of commercials on television. The first one, for Gibbs SR toothpaste, was transmitted at 8.12pm on September 22, 1955. I expect it was about 8.13 before the first joke about TIV commercials being better than the programmes was made. This range over the territory, presented by Lorraine Chase, uses anecdotes very well to illustrate how commercials have become increasingly sophisticated over the years, particularly in their use of humour.

RADIO 1

6.30em Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whitey. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Raddiffe 4.00 Dave Peace 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session with Stave Lamaco 8.30 Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00em Citva Warren 4.00 Cbris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00mm Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf. The Gress is Singing 7.30 Options 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concart Half 9.00 News, News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 The Deal with Drugs 9.30 Literature File: The Mill on the Ficss 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Chilization 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Health Matters 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitack Hit List 3.00 News; News in German (648 anly) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Greenfield Coffection 4.00 News 4.15 Wildtrack 4.30 The World Today; News in German (648 anly) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 One Planet; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Live 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 1.045 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 1.045 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Megamba 11.30 Megamba 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Today 1.045 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Megamba 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Today 1.05 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Discovery 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Meridian Live 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 One Planet 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 6.00mm Sarah Kennedy 7,30 Wake Up to Wogan 9,30 Ken Bruce 11,30 Jimmy Young 1,30pm Debbie Thrower 3,00 Ed Stewart 5,05 John Dunn 7,00 Richard Stiggoe's Classical Gas 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 The Prohibition Years, George Melly introduces more stories and music from the dry years 9.30 Ads. R.Us. Presented by Lorrane Chese. See Choice 10.30 Richard. Allinson 12.05 am. Steve Medden 3.00 Al

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00cm. The Breekdast Programme 9.00 Devid Mellor 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Worricker 7.00 News Edra. Presented by David McNell 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Reports on tonight's action 10.00 News Talk with Nigel Cassidy 11.00 News Edra with David 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00cm Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evens 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (RMY) Nicky Home 4,00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Caimin Jones 10.00 Mark Fornest 2.00cm Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

request Hour wan Jarie Jones 200 Concerto, Mozart (Haria Concerto, No 20 in D minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Brumning 8.00 Evening Concert. Liszt (Macceppa); Kodely (Verlations on a Hungarian Folksong; Hery Janos Sulte); Mildos Rosza (Hungarian Noctume); Bartok (The Miraculous Mandarin) 10.00 Michael Mappin. Includes at 11.35 Noctume 2.00am. Concerto 3.00 Mark Griffiths

6.00am On Air, with Stephenie Hughes. Includes
Respighi (The Pines of Rome); Bach (Italian
Concerto in F); Poulenc (Les Chemins de
L'Amour): Beethoven (Caim Sea and a
Prosperous Voyage); Shostakovich (Overture)
Waltz Cheryomushiq); Brahms (Tragle Overture)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobley.
J.C. Bach (Sinfonta Concertante in C); Chopin
(Scherzo No 1 in B minor); Dvořák (Serenade for
Strinos)

(Scherzo No 1 in 8 minor); Dvořák (Serenade for Strings)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mary Miller. Mozart (Ave Verum Corpus); Vivaldi (Viola d'Amore Concerto in D minor); Strauss (Wie du warst Wie du bist. Der Rosenkaweiler); Barlok (Dance Suite); Mozart (Symphony No 29 in A); Villa-Lobos (String Quartet No 7); Heinichen (Concerto in F)

12.00 Composer of the Weels: Proteoflew

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The Emperor Quartet, with Anya Alexeev, piano, performs Gubaldulina (Chaconne for Plano); Prokoflev (Visions Fugitives for Pieno, selection); Shostalovich (Piano Quintet) (r)

2.00 The BBC Crehestras. BBC Philifermonic. Prokoflev (Suite Lieutenent Klje); Hindemith (Symphonic Denoes), under Yarr Pascal Tortelier. Shostalovich (Symphony No 4); under Vasili Sinaisky

Sinasisty

4.00 Voices. Susan Sharpe introduces settings of works by the German post Heine. With Turid Moberg, mezo., Susie Allen, pieno, Richard Edgar Wilson, tenor, Eugene Asti, plano (r)

4.45 Music Machine, with Verity Sharp

5.00 in Tune, with Seen Reflerty. Includes music from English, American, French, Firmish, Estonian and Czech composers. Plus e look at the premiere of Saturday Night, Stephen Sondheim's first musical 7.45 Performance on 3 (Soundling the Century). Live from the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, A concert of music for two planos. Debussy (En Blanc et Noir); Poutenc (Sonata for two planos); Ravel (La Valse) performed by Martin Ruscoe and Peter Donohue 8.35 Britiant Creatures. A profile of Edith Sitwell 8.55 Concert part two. Satie (La Belle Excentique); Stravinsky (The Rite of Spring)
9.50 Postscript. Role Play, Michael Billington talks to Alexandra Giforeath and Harriet Walter about the challenges of Hedda Gabler (2/4) (r)
10.15 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, under Emilio Pomarico. Elikut Carter (Verrations for Orchestra).

CLASSIC FM

6,00am Alan Menn. News and travel reports, including Trumpet Alarm Call and Brealdast Beroque 9.00 Henry Kelly Includes the Classic Masterplece, Hall of Fame Hour and a recipe for home-made vegetarian minocenest 1.00pm Listener Request Hour with Jene Jones 2.00 Concerto. Mozant (Plano.

Orchestra)

10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles reports as the Royel National Theatre's production of Peter Pan opens with Jermy Agutter, Ian McKellen and Alec McCowen. Plus a look at the various new films forming on the Chinese and of Chine. focusing on the Chinese rule of Tibet. The

focusing on the Chinese rule of Tibet. The programme asks: what makes a fashionable liberal cause in the arts?

11.30 Composer of the Week: Goeth (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes, Digby Felnweather continues the musical tribute to Flormie Scott with a concert given by the John Critchinson Quartet John Critchinson, plano, Pat Crumly, saxophone, Leon Clayton, double bass, John Piper, drums

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Faming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Call Ed Stourton. Call 0171-580 4444

Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Call Ed Stourton. Call 0171-580 4444 with your questions for the guest of the day 10.00 (FM) News; And Here's the Tape to Prove It. The geologist Dave Martil and his colleagues follow a trail in search of buried pterodactyl eggs, hoping to find traces of an ancient past (3/4) 10.00 (LW) News; Delily Service 10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler 10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray 11.30 Wedlichie Now. A look behind-the-scenes of the National Health Service with Geoff Watts 12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with John Waite 12.25pm Random Edition. Peter Snow takes a look at stories from the Isle of Wight Herald for August 12, 1910 (4/6) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (7) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Thirty Mitnute Theatre: Filet de Sole Yerronique, by Jyll Bractey A cultivary cornedy set in Paris. With Artie Carters, Adjoa Andoh and Alson Petitit 2.30 Literary Houses. See Choice (1/4) 3.00 News; The Attempon Shift, with Daire Brehan 4.00 News; The Attempon Shift, Northern Ireland reporter, Tom Bracky

4.45 Short Story: The Innocent, by Graham Greene, read by Cornelius Gerrett 5.00 PM, with Charlie Lee-Potter and Jon Sopel 5.50

Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 North East of Eden. The comedy series written
by Peter Kerry. With Joan Sims. Rebecca Front
and James Garbutt (3/5) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4. Liz Carney reports on topical issues at
home and oversees

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4. Liz Camery reports on topical issues at home and oversees
8.00 Science Now. A look at the latest scientific discoveries and developments with Peter Evans (r)
8.30 The Network. Alun Lewis examines Murphy's Law as it applies to today's technology. Machines are often blamed for everything, but whose fault is it really? (5/6)
9.00 in Touch, with Peter White
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtimer. Candide. Anton Lesser reads Voltaire's classic satire of the 1700s. Translated by John Butt, abridged by Andrew Simpson (7/8)
11.00 Mediummyane. This week's events in the media (r)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament. A roundup of the day's events in Westminster
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament. A roundup of the day's events in Westminster
11.30 (HM) Sentimental Journey. Loyd Grossman returns to Marblehead, Massachusetts (5/6) (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book Comversations with My Agent. Written by Rob Long and read by Rob Morrow (2/5) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.5-99.8, RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 883, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRSIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Desr, len Hughes, Resemeny Smith, Susen Thomson, Jane-Gregory and John McNemerz.

Women look for cutting edge bowling side rather than an

THE England women's cricket team continue their World Cup campaign today when they take on Ireland here, but, although they are expected to win comfortably and have three successive victories behind them, areas of concern remain.

There are too many ordi-nary teams in the preliminary rounds to produce high-class cricket. Only England, Australia, New Zealand, India, and, possibly, South Africa, have the ability to win the tournament. The likes of Denmark and Pakistan have been nothing more than cannon fodder, as England displayed by scoring over 300 runs in 50 overs against both teams - yet in neither match did England threaten to bowl out the

Pakistan and Denmark are poor sides. There are only around 100 women cricketers

Captain Lara causes unrest

WARWICKSHIRE have att-

empted to quell members unrest at the appointment of Brian Lara as captain for next summer. In a letter to all 15,000 members, Dennis Amiss, the chief executive, admitted it had been a very difficult decision to take the captaincy away from Tim Munton on fitness grounds. Munton missed all of last season with a back injury and Warwickshire claim they "would not be certain about Tim's real cricketing fitness until he took the field of play". Amiss said: "We therefore felt unable to appoint him captain for 1998." Warwickshire also considered Nick Knight, the

vice-captain, and Neil Smith.

captain in last season's

NatWest Trophy final.

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS in Denmark and many of the

Pakistan team had never played a game lasting 50 overs a side before this tournament. However, Denmark lost only seven wickets against Eng-land and Pakistan, who Denmark dismissed for 66 in Mysore last week, lost just three in scoring 146 against England. Australia took all ten Pakistan wickets for 27

runs on Sunday. Karen Smithies, captaining England for a second World Cup, said: "We were disappointed with ourselves against Pakistan, where the batsmen were simply stonewalling and we did nothing about it. We are missing an out-and-out strike bowler and we certainly missed Kathryn Leng against Pakistan, when we didn't have a leg spinner. We're a stock-

opening partnership with Charlotte Edwards and Bar-bara Daniels is recalled. Ireland benefited enormously from sharing the points with Australia in their washed-out game in Madras last week and their win over

attacking one."

Denmark and a final group match against Pakistan should ensure them of fourth place in pool A and the last quarter-final spot ☐ India beat Holland by 93 runs in group B to enter the quarter-finals. India scored 175 for seven in their 50 overs and Holland mustered only 82 for nine. Also in group B, New Zealand were victorious by 198

who collapsed to 55 all out in 28.4 overs.

runs over the West Indies,

WORD-WATERINGS

SHENANDOAH

SHENANUJAH

(c) A river, part of the Great Appalachian Valley, chiefly in Virginia. The haunting song or sea shanty goes. "Oh Shemandoah, you rolling river." And later on somewhat incongruously and authropomorphically, "I love your daughter" and "I long to hear you, Roll away, you rolling river". During the Civil War, Confederate general Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson won immortality during his Valley Councils.

(a) The eponym of an Italian geologist who devised a 12-point scale to express intensity at any place. Daily Columnist. 1973: "An earthquake has only one magnitude but can have several intensities on the Mercalli scale." HACKAMORE

(c) A halter of horsekair or rawhide, having a nosepiece fitted to serve as the head of a bridle. Dunlevy, 1971: "Her only riding equipment was a rawhide hackamore already on the horse's head."

(c) A Hungarian dance, dating from the late 18th century. It was originally danced by Hussars in uniform in order to attract recruits. Later it became popular in the theatre. The music has two contrasting elements, a slow "lassu" and a quick, fiery "fries".

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

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Contract to the second second second second

If not bad publicity, it is certainly fawlty

ssuming that you have now watched seven episodes of watched seven episodes of Hotel (BBCI), you can understand why chief executives despair when advertising agencies urge them to increase their promotion budget; why businessmen say that they know that half the money they spend on advertising is wasted, but they don't know which half And the reason you can empathise is that normally you would have to slip somebody fat wads of folding money to keep the sort of bad publicity that is Hotel away from the nation's relevision screens.

Week after week, we have been peeking under the carpet of an hotel that is eerily like Fawlty Towers in its grabby attitude to guests, and in the way hot-headed staff scream at each other. There is just one key difference: the Adelphi hotel actually exists. Thar's why you have been assuming that the local Salvation Army hostel would need to be full before anyone

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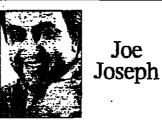
Adelphi again. But it turns out that business at the Adelphi is booming as a result of this series. Bookings are up 20 per cent. This is like running an advertising campaign that says "Heinz ketchup tastes like gerbil poop" and then seeing sales zoom. What conclusions should businessmen draw about their advertising budgets now?

Last night, staff were rude about guests who had been evacuated in a bomb scare; the head chef once again abused diners (especially vegetarians), and the banqueting manager. Brian Birchall; guests, complaining about the rudeness of the waitresses at breakfast, were dismissed with the explanation "it's a high-volume operation"; the police were called because no Adelphi staff had noticed a man walking into the breakfast room and helping himself to a purse while its owner was helping her-self to bacon; porters refused to

visiting Liverpool stayed in the unload suitcases for a coach party unless the toach driver coughed up 60p per bag, one of the porters, Keith, scrutinised the luggage labels of new arrivals in search of an address he might like to visit for his next holidays (once he has chosen his destination, he befriends the guest until he extracts an invitation to stay).

> f you don't eat meat, can't carry your own suitcase but don't happen to be carrying any loose change; if you live in an enticing villa in Cap d'Antibes; if you prefer your waitresses to be civil; if you find it offensive to be charged twice the published room rate because rooms in the city are scarce: and if your pin-sharp hearing enables you to overhear rude comments staff might be making about you the minute your back is turned, then you are probably the guest for whom a stay at the Adelphi would be hell.

REVIEW



Clearly, many people don't at all

Joe

falling.
As far as the BBC is concerned, the series has been a huge hit: eight million viewers. The Adelphi thinks so too. Its owner is considering inviting the cameras back for a second series (The Adelphi: The Nightmare Continues? — it's just an idea). But as it becomes trickier

mind spending a weekend in hell.

No wonder church attendances are

every day to avoid a camera crew through the programme: "The oid staying at the Adelphi, unless awful truth is becoming clear; to he wants Keith, the porter, to read about the Circle Line - or your newspaper shop, or the local sandwich bar, or taxi drivers, anything - this flood of fly-on-thewall series is drowning hapless bystanders: the Adelphi staff have presumably agreed to be filmed (many play up to the cameras), but have all those drunk guests, who we see making fools of themselves after parties in the banqueting hall? They aren't, of course, the first people to act like twits in front of large television audiences, but at least Noel Edmonds and Dale

Winton get paid well for doing it. Michael Palin has been smart enough to wangle trips to more exotic destinations than Liverpool. Even in Palin on the Redpath (BBC2), when he was setting out to learn more about a painting of Menton that he bought some years ago, by the Scottish artist Anne Redpath, he announced halfway awful truth is becoming clear; to find out more about Anne Redpath I might be forced to go to the South of France." Yes, of course his tongue was in his cheek as he was saying this. But not quite as deep into his cheek as it might have been in the days before he had been around the world, from Pole to Pole, and around the Rim.

alin has now elbowed him-self into a position where he only needs to pick up any item in his house to spawn another foreign jaunt, along with accompanying television programme. Maybe we can look forward to trips to Milan to learn more about Palin's Armani trousers; to New Zealand to learn how his kiwi fruit was grown; to China, to visit the factory that made his T-shirt; even to Liverpool, to trace the manufacturer of the moptop Beatle wig he bought in 1965. But he should avhe wants Keith, the porter, to read his address off his luggage labels and turn up to stay for New Year's

Nigel Ellacott and Peter Robbins are two reasons why pantomime still flourishes in Britain. With their reach-for-the-skies Marge Simpson wigs, eyelashes like lawn rakes, outrageous hallgowns, and a stage patter perfected over 16 years of playing Cinderalia's ugly sisters, Ellacott and Robbins were the unexpected stars of Channel 4's Pantoland, which ended its fourpart run last night. They play the same roles, year in and year out. The jokes don't change either. When they arrive at the fancy dress ball — dressed as a hat and as a high-heeled shoe - Buttons asks what they have come as, "Hat!" says one sister. "Shoe!" snaps the other. "Bless you!" says Buttons. It's a pretty bad joke. But still not as bad as the Adelphi.

6.00am Business Breakfast (71697) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (85719) 9.00 Good Living (1165806) 9.25 Style Challenge (1071413) 9.50 Kilroy (1) (2882603)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1596968) 10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (8588142) 11.35 Change That (3877993) 12.00 News (T) and weather (9228500) 12.05pm Call My Bluff (2502993)

12.35 Give Us A Clue (5102581) 1.00 News (T) and weather (68806) 1.30 Regional News (17344622) 1.40 The Weather Show (86175581) 1.45 Neighbours (T) (72237036)

2.10 Petrocelli William Shatner and Harrison Ford guest (r) (1880326) 3.00 Vets in Practice (r) (1) (1413) 3.30 Pfaydays (7601790) 3.50 Arthur (7612806) 4.15 Fudge (3135697) 4.35 It'll Never Work (2590515) 5.00 Newsround (T) (6181451) 5.10 Aquila (T) (6134239)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (1) (863581) 6.00 News (T) and weather (535) 6.30 Regional News (887) 7.00 Holiday A cruise on the QE2; on safari in

Tanzania; sunshine in the Algarve; gliding over Herefordshire; and Flonda's 7.30 EastEnders Cindy goes to court for the preliminary custody hearing, but Ros urges Ian not to attend (T) (871)

8.00 Auntile's Natural Bloomers Terry Wogan with BBC animal archive outtekes (T) (2142)

8.30 A Question of Sport Sue Barker puts the questions to David Ginole, Chris Eubank, Dalton Grant, Adam Hollicoake and captains John Parrott and Ally McCoist

9,00 News (T) and weather (3429) 9.30 Crimewatch UK Nick Ross and Jill Dando appeal for help from the public to identify three robbers who murdered a and a man believed to be responsible for a spate of rapes in the Essex area (T)

10.20 Carry on Columbus (1992) with Jim Dale in the title role, and a cast including Rik Mayali, Nigel Planer, Julian Clary, Tony Stattery. Alexel Sayle and Keth Allen. Last and least of the series. Directed by Gerald Thomas (1) (1844264) WALES: 10.20 Week In, Week Out (916682) 10.50 FILM: Carry on Columbus (7630326) 12.15em Crimewatch UK Update (9798253) 12.25

FILM: The Opposite Sex (5609765) 1.45 News (7119901) 1.50 BBC News 24 11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (T) (785852) 11.55 The Opposite Sex (1993) with Courteney Cox and Kevin Pollak Quirky comedy charting the rocky road to love and commitment travelled by a Jewish confirmed bachelor and his upper-cl

1.15am Weather (9509253) 1_20 BBC News 24

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the Video Plus-Code for the programme you
wish to record. Videoplus+ ("), Plus-code (")
and Video Programmer are trademerks of
Gernstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Arts: A New Museum at South Kensington (98806) 6.30 Serjeant Musgrave at the Court (38177)

7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (signing and

7.15 Teletubbles (r) (2384790) 7.40 Yakky Duck (r) (8724351) 8.05 Blue Peter (r) (T) (8853968) 8.30 The Secret Life of Toys (r)) (8724351) 8.05 Excercise (r) (r) 68) 8.30 The Secret Life of Toys (r) (8313993) 8.45 The Record (4741528) 9.10 The Fugitive (r) (T) (1724790) 10.00 Telatubbles (29429)

10.30 A Stitch in Time (1963) Slapstick comedy with Norman Wisdom. Directed by Robert Asher (1) (73993)

12.00 See Hear (r) (1) (17239) 12.30 pm Working Lunch (37581) 1.00 Fireman-Sam (50376210) 1.10 Hammer it Home (73443697) 1,30 A River Somewhere (36852) 2,00 Take a Meal With (92698806) 2.15 Going, Going, Gone (45084351) 2.40 News (T) (7764158) 2.45 Westminster (5804887) 3.25 News (T) (4014626) 3.30 The Village (993)

(1) (4014625) 3.30 The Village (993)

4.00 Ready Steady Cook (500) 4.30 Through the Keyhole (2599887) WALES: 4.30pm Heartbreak High (9229142) 5.15 From the Edge (368535) 5.45 Today's the Day (367806) 6.15 Food and Drink (359887) 6.45-9.00 FAW Invitational Cup (95087245) 4.55 Esther: Cosmetic surgery (5805413) 5.30 Today's the Day (264)

6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air (r) (966158) 6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (963332) 7.10 The O Zone Interview with the Spice Girls

and the musical highs and lows of 1997 7.30 From the Edge Last in series (1) (413)

8.00 University Challenge King's College, London v Nottingham University, for a place in the quarter-finals (9564) 8.30 Food and Drink Crab blinis; champagne under £12 and sparkling wines under £6

Timewatch: In Search of Cleopatra How Egyptian hieroglyphs are sheding light on the life of Cleopatra. Last in series (1) (810503)



Andrew Parker (9.50pm)

Picture This: Accidental Hero Andrew Parker, a hero from the sinking of the Herald of Free Enterprise (1) (996528) 10.20 Best Friends Last in series (1) (740993)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (214351) 11.15 Seinfeld (1) (118351) 11.40 The Larry Sanders Show Courteney Cox and Rosle Perez guest (1) (501332) 12,00 The Midnight Hour (5908494)

12.25am Weather (3366727) 12.30 Learning Zone: Eve Arnold (8866307) 12.35 20th-Century Women (6363630) 1.00 The Passionate Statistician (39630) 1.30 Berthe Morisot (83949) 2.00 Movie Making (92765) 4.00 Deutsch Plus (45017) 5.00 Business (63253)

& Norm GMTV (2850284). 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (f) (1153061) 9.55 Regional News (T) (7906603) 10.00 The Time, the Place (43055) 10.30 This Morning (T) (97498993)

12.20pm Regional News (T) (9305603) 12.30 News (T) and weather (5201806) 12.55 Shortland Street (5113697)

1.25 Home and Away (1) (73522158) 1.50 Quisine (1) (69182167) 2.20 Countdown to Christmas (1) (45996142) 2.50 Vanessa (1) (4916993) 3.20 News (T) (3569531)

3.25 Regional News (1) (4919072) 3.30 The Riddlers (2038061) 3.40 Wizadora's Christmas Carol (8177603) 3.50 The Adventures of Pacidington Bear (8173887) 4.00 Zzzep! Christmas Annuals (7630806) 4.15 Hey Amold! (3217245) 4.40 The Ward (4697608) 5.10 WALES: Don't Try This at Home, Kidsl

(9270177) 5.10 Relative Knowledge (9270177) 5.40 News (T) and weather (119887)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (880784) 6.30 Regional News (555) 7.00 Emmerdale Pollard is roped into being

Father Christmas (T) (4790) 7.30 WALES: The People's Garden (239) 7.30 The House Christmas Special (239) 8.00 The Bill Cryer remains convinced that Jimmy's fall from the roof was not an accident (2/3) (T) (7210)

8.30 The Cook Report Roger Cook on the trail of more consumer swindlers and



Gibson and Glover (9.00pm)

and Danny Glover. Action drama about 9.00 Lethal Weapon (1987) with Mel Gibson two mismatched cops who come to depend on each other in their mission to crack an underground drug ring. Directed by Richard Donner (1) Continues after the News (2239)

10.00 News (T) and weather (37662) 10.30 Regional News (T) (474429) 10.40 FILM: Lethal Weapon Conclusion (T) (8738055)

11.40 WALES: Top Sport (622516) 11.40 Tropical Heat (622516) 12.40am Planet Mirth (3377833)

1.10 Late and Loud (6149727) 2.05 The Chart Show (r) (5394291)

3.00 Football Extra (r) (1515272) 3.55 World of Salling (r) (57766340) 4.25 Sound Bites (24805104)

4,35 The Time, the Place (r) (79912340) 5,00 Pushing the Limits: The Making of Eraser A look behind the scenes at the making of Amold Schwarzenegger's latest blockbuster (92611) 5.30 News (20727)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (5113697) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9270177) 6.25-7.00 Central News (148581) 7,30-8.00 Home for Christmas (239)

11.45 Film: State of Grace (10656535) 2,10am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (8717562)

2.40 The Paul Ross Show (7241388)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (7395887) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (50564500) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9270177) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (49326) 7.30-8.00 Biooming Marvellous (239) 11.40 Highlander (622516)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except:

1.50-2.20 The Fashion Police (69182167) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9270177) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (603) 6.30-7.00 Relative Knowledge (555) 7.30-8.00 Ambulancel M0(239)

11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (622516) 5.00am Freescreen (92611)

ANGLIA As HTV West except:

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (9316719) 12,55-1.25 What's My Line? (5113697) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9270177) 6.23 Anglia Weather (863622) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (148581) 7.30-8.00 Out to Lunch with Brian Turner

10.29 Anglia Air Watch (168103) 11,40 First Take (615974) 12.10am Movie Show Specials (5981727)

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58429) 9.00 Something So Right (15871) 9.30 Film: Oh Rosalindal (56979603)

11.25 Frog (2191142) 11.30 Powerhouse (8072) 12.00pm Sesame Street (87185) 12.30 Ricki Lake (35177) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (50465158)

1.15 Pingu (50380413) 1.30 Film: Heaven Knows Mr Allison 3.30 Collectors' Lot (531) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (968)

4 30 United Tastes of America (852) 5.00 5 Pump: Uned 5 (6968) 5.30 Countdown (332) 6.00 Newyddion (326516)

6.10 Heno (719448) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (191531) 7.25 Gwyn A'l Fyd (356448)

8.00 Y Sice Gelf (5852) 8.30 Newyddion (7887) 9.00 Y Palmant Aur (3581) 10 00 Brookside (520264)

10.35 Frasier (122535) 11.05 Brit Girls (834887) 11.35 Film: Time After Time (56492177) 1.40am-2.30 The Against Nature Debat (9778982)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (60535) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58429) 9.00 Something So Right (15871)

9.30 Oh Rosalindalt (1955) with Michael Redgrave, Ludmilla Tchenna and Dennis Price An updated version of Strauss's Die Fledermaus, set in Vienna during the late 1940s. Directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger (56979603) 11.25 Frog Animation (2191142) 11.30

Powerhouse (T) (8072) 12.00 Sesame Street (87185) 12.30pm Light Lunch (r)

1.30 Interrupted Melody (1955) with Eleanor Parker and Glenn Ford. An Oscar-winning biopic of the Australian-home winning biopic of the Australian-born opera star Marjorie Lawrence. Directed by Curtis Bernhardt (62500) 3.30 Collectors' Lot Paper dolls and dresses;

French Revolution memorabilia and antique baths (T) (531) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (968) 4.30 Countdown (T) (2411055) 4.55 Ricki Lake: Family reunions (T) (5890581) 5.30

Pet Rescue (T) (332) 6.00 Moviewatch Film magazine presented by Johnny Vaughan, featuring reviews of George of the Jungle, Spiceworld — The Movie, Starship Troopers and Home Alone 3 (245) 6.30 Roseanne (r) (T) (697)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (642142) 7.50 Schubert Shorts Cardiff Singer of the World competition winner Christophe Maltman performs Ständchen (677852)

8.00 Deals on Wheels Advice on buying second-hand cars (6/6) (T) (5852)



Sweeney and Usher (8.30pm)

8.30 Brookside Eleanor is dreading he confession to Louise; Julia and David tread the boards in the local panto; will Lindsey (Claire Sweeney) stay with Peter while Barry (Paul Usher) is around? (T)

9.00 Time After Time (1979) Malcolm McDowell and David Warner star in this comedy sci-fl thriller directed by Nicholas Meyer (T) (57526719)

11.05 Rory Bremner - Who Else? (r) (T)

11.45 The Against Nature Debate Environmentalists and their critics discuss the issues raised in the three-part Against Nature series (409582)

m Best Intentions (1992) Bergman's story of his parents' courtship and marriage. With Samuel Froler and Pemilla August. Directed by Bille August. In Swedish with English subtitles (30434765) 3.50 Springhill More drama from the

Liverpool estate (2640017) 5.15 in Conversation With Henry Biofeld talks to a personality about cricket and life

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (4358351)

7.30 Milkshakel (7565210) 7.35 Adventures of the Bush Patrol (r) (9220603) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (6526567) 8.30 WideWorld: Fragile Planet How did the peacock develop its colourful train? (3/10) (1807018)

9.00 Espresso (7192603) 10.00 Exclusive (f) (4484142) 10.30 Period Rooms (f) (1) (1902662)

11.00 Leeza (3476264) 11.50 Double Espresso (90032535) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (7207054) 12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (1585500) 1.00 5 News 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (4241622)

2.00 5's Company (3373500) 3.30 Without Reservations (1946, b/w) starring John Wayne and Claudette Colbert. A romantic comedy about a

soldier selected to play the lead in a film version of a female writer's book. Directed by Mervyn LeRoy (4263239) 5.30 Whittle Ouiz (T) (4814264) 6.00 100 Per Cent (4811177)

6.30 Family Affairs While travelling to France, Bill discovers that both his wallet and Charlotte have gone missing (T) (4802429)

7.00 Exclusive (5190142) 7.30 Empire of the Elephant: Skeleton Coast The first in a series of seven wildlife films following in the tootsteps of the African elephant (1) (4728413)



Danny La Rue (8.00pm)

8.00 Vanessa's Day With Vanessa Feltz spends a day with Danny La Rue (T) (5272790) 8.30 5 News (T) (5195697)

9.00 Trapped in Paradise (1994) staming Nicolas Cage. A Christmas comedy crime caper about three dim brothers one of whom tries to go straight, but when his two brothers are released from prison he is persuaded to join them in a "can't

(T) (8829516) 11.00 The Jack Docherty Show Cornedy and chat (5070622) 11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H (6157264)

fail" robbery. Directed by George Gallo

12.45am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine leaturing 1.50 motorsport (46679494) and 3.45 Futbol Americas (5915727) 4.35 The Streets of San Francisco starring Karl Malden (T) (5810765) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7077340)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY 1

6.00m Morning Groy (762103) 9.00 Hotel (1968) 10.00 Another World (82516) 11.00 Days of Our Lyes, (9982) 12.00 Cyrah Wirthey (7848) 1.00pm Geraldo (8988) 2.00 Saly Jessy Raphael (71806) 3.00 Jenny Jones (85622) 4.00 Cyrah Wirthey (7429) 5.00 Saly Treic Voyager (8177) 6.00 Dream Toem, (8897) 6.30 Marted...with Chikrien (423) 7.00 The Serpsons (7966) 7.30 Real IV (9351) 8.00 Rescue Peramedics (1968) 8.30 Coppers (9081) 9.00 World's Scanist Poice Shootuds 2 (12245) 10.00 The Edgandinery (95072) 11.00 Star Treic: Voyager (94245) 12.00 Late Show (56833) 9.00 turn in the Heat of the Night (57643) 2.00 Long Play (6068494) SKY BOX OFFICE

Sity's gary-pervision enovice charactels. To view any firm telephone 0990 800889. Each film costs; \$2,39 per viewing SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transporter 26) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)

D3: The Alighty Ducks (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transporter Dead Presidents (1996) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1 6.00mm While You Were Sleeping (1985)

6.00mn While You Wate brooking (19578) 8.60 Robin and the Seven Hoods (1984) 62:188; 10.00 Kanats (1984) (77655) 11.30 Laife Women. (1985) (25061) 1.30pm The Avistor (1985) (27878) 3.30 Againe Christle's Dead Nan's Felly (1986) (26730) 5.00 Little Women (1996) 363337 7.00 While You Water Search (1985) 30339 3.00 Were Steeping (1985) ,904291 9.00 Crimes of Passion: Voice from the Grave (1996) £22*() 10.20 Deckman it.
The Roburt of Durant (1996) (8795593)
12.05am The Inspecual Steep (1995)
(26529) 1.45 Under the Plant (1995)
(270129) 2.20 Heavy (1996) [52189633)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 0.00mm Smiley (1967) (5326) 8.00 Tad (1969) - 40550) 10.00 Time Warrior. Homes Pete (1963) (5587) 12.00 Next Karate Kid (1984) (76351) 2.00pm Pare-well My Lously (1984) (2326) 4.00 Sig Palson (1994) (2351) 6.06 Tad (1985)

(22887) 8.00 Cold Equations (1996) (97429) 10.06 The Juror. (1996) (83458054) 12.10em Don Juan De Marco (1995) (130520) 1.50 Village of the Dagasted (1995) (83185) 3.30 Best (1985) (85340) 4.56 Willy Fogg. 20,000 Lagues Under the See (7425795) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Alexander's Regime Band (1938) (9850719) 6.00 Fletch Lives (1999) (9196955) 7.35 Battle of the Bulge (1982) (42825177) 10.00 The Accused (1988) (9235784) 11.50 The Rachel Papers (1989) (849143) 1.25am Shape Fright (1989) (4009389) 3.15 Fletch Lives (1989) (7574104) 4.45 Cince

9.00pm by Favourite Year (1982) (56784245) 11.00 The Wind (1928) (88229603) 12.30em Young Cassidy (1965) (88124104) 2.30 My Favourite Year (1982) (61399949) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY SPORTS 1

7.00em Sports Centre (45335) 7.30 Football Lasgue Pavliew (33142) 8.00 V-Mer (64500) 8.30 Sports Centre (63371) 9.00 Recing News (50351) 9.30 Aerobics (8955) 10.00 Spanish Primera Liga (31719) 12.00 Aerobics (47887) 12.30pm Football Special (80963) 1.30 Sports Unfirmited (81822) 2.30 Sports Osmre (4413) 4.30 February (4351) 6.00 Sports Centre (4413) 6.30 Big Fight Countdown (85635) 9.30 Big Fight Countdown (85635) 9.30 Big Fight Countdown (85635) 10.00 Sports Centre (48518) 10.30 The Footballers Football Show (31808) 11.30 Tartan Edita (21871) 12.00 Sports Centre (1688) 12.30em Sports Unfirmited (85185) 1.30 Pto Beach Socier (60500) 2.30 Footballers Football Show (31808) 2.30 Sports Centre Football Show (31808) 12.30 Footballers Football Show (36880) 3.30 Sports Centre Football Show (36880)

SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPONTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (9708906) 7.30 Sports Centre (9614413) 8.00 Record Navas (5457969) 8.30 Feb. TV (1194682) 9.30 Frontsel League Roview (7503516) 10.00 World Motor Sport (9651953) 2.00pm NHL (2606822) 4.00 NHL Ohympic Tagms (8796516) 4.30 Belgrade: Race Through History (6612500) 5.00 Pro Beach Soctar (210374) 8.00 Sports Unfamiled (7515351) 7.00 Sports Centre (2104603) 7.30 FA Cup Second Round Replay — Live (5144577)

10.00 MHz (2777018) 12.00 Survival of the Fittest (8685982) 12.30mm Footbell (2815291) 2.00 Sports Centre (5985630) 2.30 Squest (2342096) 3.30 Cricket. Australia v New Zealend — Live (1897389) SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm Wresting (81440264) 1.00 Fish TV (81953784) 2.00 Super League Classics (22447784) 3.30 Badminton (95067332) 5.30 BMX (24431500) 6.30 Survival of the

EUROSPORT

7.30am Bobsleigh (80806) 8.30 Sking (69429) 10.00 Cross-Country Sking (46829) 11.00 Biathlon (88581) 12.30pm Eurogoals (27284) 2.00 Football (28784) 7.60 Weightiffing (68413) 8.00 Borong Johnny Nelson v Alaxander Gurov — Live (51777) 10.00 Football (67784) 11.00 Showjumping (47351) 12.00 World Cup Dream Team (27776) 12.30am Close (22776) 12.30em Close UK GOLD

7.00am Bulkeye (4435887) 7.35 Neigh-bours (4148552) 8.00 Crossroads (2366061) 8.25 EastEnders (8860326) 9.00 Dours (4148852) 8.00 Crossreads (2386161) 8.25 EastEnders (8960326) 9.00 The Bill (6069784) 9.30 Howards' Way (879336) 10.00 Bless This House (1510887) 10.30 The Sullivans (6069585) 11.00 Bless This House (1510887) 10.30 The Sullivans (6069585) 11.00 Boon (8167974) 12.00 Crossreads (48029719) 12.25 pcm Neighbours (48029719) 12.25 pcm Neighbours (48029719) 12.25 pcm Neighbours (4802919) 12.25 pcm Neighbours (4802919) 12.25 pcm Neighbours (4802919) 12.25 Last of the Summer Wine (931968) 3.30 The Bill (3904332) 4.00 Julist Bravo (38749429) 5.05 EastEnders (1207719) 8.40 Bob's Full House (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (428993) 6.25 The Test (42897) 9.30 The Bill (1854581) 9.30 Spender (65004429) 10.40 French and Saudicing (5501448) 11.20 Carned Carrot (4273897) 12.00 Filiat Billind Vision (4273897) 12.00 Fil.M: Billind Vision (1990) (65533949) 1.25am Miami Vice (11859272) 2.30 Shopping (8363611) :

GRANADA PLUS



8.00 Bind Date (6185351) 9.00 Within These Wells (4027622) 19.00 Donahue (6567516) 11.00 Hart to Hert (6474552) 12.00 Coronation St (8990974) 12.30pm Families (2480429) 1.00 On the Buses (6485668) 1.30 Please Sirl (239500) 2.00 The Good Guys (7066790) 3.00 Donahus (7290332) 4.00 Micslon: Impossible (7113239) 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (3054245) 6.00 Families (7227806) 6.30 Coronation St (7318158) 7.00 Silind Date (8537069) 8.00 (7318158) 7.00 Blind Data (8537069) 8.00 Hert to Hert (8289577) 9.00 Coronation St (7208351) 9.30 Hele and Pace (2473983) 10.00 Hewali Five-O (4482910) 11.00 Close CARLTON SELECT (cable)

5.00pm Gridtock (82932069) 5.30 Hey Dad 5,00pm Gridock (8233089) 5.30 Hey Dat II (2883971) 6.00 Blockbusters (28890784) 6.30 A Country Practice (28787284) 7.00 Carl Back (3703513) 7.30 Our House (26783448) 8.00 Desmond's (21788121) 8.30 The Big One (32033018) 8.00 Shine On, Harvey Moon (56605784) 10.00 Bread and Rosas (56806871) 11.00 St Eisswitger 8.4844189 12 20 Lei the Blood Fay Free (84404158) 12.00 Let the Blood Flut Free (63761524) 12.30am Tales of the Unexpacted (54076340) 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

5.00em Under the Umbrella Tree 5.30

Rosis and Jim 6.45 Winnie the Pooh 7.00 Aladdin: The Series 7.30 Tex Avery 8.00 Dinosaurs 8.30 Bonkers 9.00 Gummi Beers 9.30 Chip 'n' Dale 9.55 Small Stones 10.00 Sesame St 11.00 Winne the Pooh 11.15 Rosie and Jim 11.35 Sing Me a Story 12.00 Tota TV 12.50cm it's Fun to Learn with Spot 12.45 Winner the Pooh 1.00 Sesame St 2.00 Amering Armels 2.30 Gurmin Bears 3.00 Tate Sprt 3.30 Grof Troop 4.00 Timon and Pumbaa 4.38 Aladdin: The Series 5.00 Geronyles 5.30 Droceurs 6.00 Blossom 9.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Home Improve-ment 7.30 Wonder Years 8.00 FILM: The Sents Clause 9.30 Home Improvement FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Dety and His Friends 6.30 Bity the Cgr 7.00 Pirocchlo 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo 8.00 Bestleborgs 8.30 Masked Rider 9.00 Mago Box 9.30 Dudley the Oragon 10.00 Inspector Gadget 10.30 Samura Rizze Cats 11,00 Sweel Veiley High 12.00 Ace Vortura 12.30pm Cesper 1.00 The Tick 1.30 For Man 2.00 Fartissisc Four 2.30 Power Rangers Zeo 3.00 Bestleborgs 3.30 Masked Rider 4.00 Ace Vertura 4.30 Casper 5.00 The Tick 5.30 X Men 6.00 Spiderman 6.30 Sweet Valley High

8.00am Happily Ever Alter 6.30 Bobby's World 7.00 Spirou 7.30 Dennis the Menace 8.00 Batman 8.30 Batman 9.00 Earthworm Jum 9.30 Romusid the Rendeer 9.45 Romusid the Rendeer 10.00 Oscars Orchestra 10.30 Resh Gordon 11.00 Enegoud 11.30 Giganter 12.00 Spirou 12.30pen Sonic 1.00 Batman 1.30 All Time Travelers 2.00 Traygoud 2.30 Fish Gordon 3.00 Sonic 3.30 Earthworm Jim 4.00 Deman the Microsoft 4.30 Batman 4.30 Spirou 14.00 Demand 4.30 Rendeed 1.30 Resh Gordon 3.00 Sonic 3.30 Earthworm Jim 4.00 Demand 4.30 Rendeed 1.30 Rendeed CARTOON NETWORK All your lavourite cartoons broadcast from 5.00mm to 9.00mm, seven days a work

NICKELODEON 6.00am Killer Tomatoes 6.30 Azahiti Reel Monaters 7.00 Hey Amoldi 7.30 Rugrals 8.00 Doug 8.30 Neverending Story 9.00 C38C 10.00 Wirnze's House 10.30 Baber 11.00 Magic School Bus 11.30 Bananas in 11.00 wegic school bus 11.30 Banaries Pylamas 12.00 Paddington Beer etc. 12.30pm Little Red Tractor etc 1.00 Dr Sauss 1.30 Little Beer Stones 2.00 Animal Show 2.30 CBBC 3.30 Rocko/Doug 4.00 Angry Beavers 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Sater Sister 5.30 Kenan and kei 6.00 Sature the

Teenage Witch 6.30 Moeshe 7.00 Close TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing 12.30 Ready or Not 1.00 Madison 1.30 California Dreems 2.00 Saved by the Bell 2.30 Swan's Crossing 3.00 9-2-53.30 Ready or Not 4.00 Saved by the Bell 4.30 USA High 5.00 Hangdime 5.30 California Dreams 6.00 TX So 6.30 Medison 7.00 Hangtime 7.30 USA Sx 6.30 Madisor High 8.00 Close **CHALLENGE TV**

5.00pm Cross Wits 5.30 Move on Up 5.00
Family Fortunes 6.30 Catchphrase 7.15
The \$64,000 Causation 8.00 Spit Second
8.30 Karaoka Challenge 9.15 Wirmar Tales
All 10.00 Treasura Hunt 11.15 Karaoka
Challenge 12.00 Say the Word 12.30am
Hart to Hart 1.30 The Big Valley 2.30
Explorer 3.30 Where I Live 4.00 Jeax sans
Frontiers & 60 Screenshop Frontieres 5.00 Screenshap BRAVO

5.00pm Cross Wits 5.30 Move on Up 6.00

8.00pm The A-Teem (4818239) 9.00 Teur of Duty (4994603) 10.00 Red Shoe Dienes (509348) 10.45 FLM: Vice Academy 5

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fre (3822) 7.30 Roseanne (5719) 8.00 Elen (6142) 8.30 Cybil (8177) 9.00 Cheers (13429) 9.30 Tax (63177) 10.00 Frasier (46156) 10.30 Nenny (6317) 10300 Fraster (40150 10300 Father) Everet (55905) 11,00 Festhal of Fun (18974) 11,30 Ellen (29413) 12,00 Rossarine (22730) 12,30mm Nightsland (62553) 1,00 Soep (44017) 1,30 Taxi (67456) 2,00 Festhal of Fun (69253) 2,30 Grace Under Fre (75348) 3,00 Fraster (2005) 2,30 Keeps (18976) (27265) (24253) 3.30 Kenny Everett (82340)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Sgrimps (3013156) 8.00 Oark Skiss (2026622) 10.00 Making of Starship Troopers (3747142) 10.30 Masters of Fantesy (3829790) 11.00 Friday the 13th (6318603) 12.00 Sigramps (2639712) 1.00em Twilight Zone (9523765) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (3335475) 2.30 New Hitchtook (7436253) 3.00 Friday the 13th (9235185) HOME & LEISURE

9,00em The Joy of Painting 8,30 Garden Club 10,00 Garden Party 10,30 New Yankee Workshop 11,00 Andy's Angling Adventures 11,30 Hometime 12,00 The Dicemen 12,30pm Hammer it Home 1,00 Yen Can Cook 1,30 The Restoration Game 2.00 Furniture on the Mend 2.30 Anhouses DISCOVERY

4,00pm Bush Tucker Man (3818581) 4.30 Fightline (3910993) 5.00 Ancient Warriors (8138351) 5,30 Beyond 2000 (3901245) (8138351) 9,30 geyorid 200 (3801230) 6.00 Australien Sea Lonn Story (9452603) 7.00 Myslenous Universe (8125887) 7.30 Disaster (3811622) 8,00 Discover Megazine (4614413) 9,00 Raging Planer (907177) 10.00 Blood and Guts (6151719) 10.30 A Firms to KiTP (8064239) 11.00 Outback Investigator (8073581) 12.00 The Dicemen (7210727) 12.30mm Wheel Nuts (7821307) ster (5134974) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (9806611) 2.00 Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Okavango (8870993) 8.00 The Big Five of Africa (8783413) 9.00 Reef at Ras Mohammed (8876177) 10.00 Carro Un-veiled (5070500) 10.30 Ball (5169448) 11.00 Storm Voyage (9882210) 11.30 Ouest for the Blue Mourtain (7657603) 12.00 Final Voyage of the Soul (2658652) TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm On Top of the World 1.00 Ridge Riders 1.30 Cities of the World 2.00 Travel Trates 2.30 Rayours of France 3.00 Railway Adventures 3.30 Cartiblean Day 4.00 Snow Sateri 4.30 Beyond Borders 5.00 Around Britain 5.30 On Tour 6.00 Aspects of Life 6.30 Immocent Abroad 7.00 Best of Tizzel Live 1997 8.00 Reel World 8.30 Snow Salan 9.00 Destinations 10.00 Greg's THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Hitler's War Machine (2872662) 5.00 Civil War Journal (2103974) 6.00 Ancient Mystenes (7515361) 7.00 Biogra-phy Beniro Musschill (2512239) 8.00 Close CARLTON FOOD (cable)

and Cooking 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Twelve Chels of Christmas 2.00 Chel for a Day 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 The Green Gournet 8.30 Greham Kerr's Krichen 4.00 For Berier, tor Worse 4.30 West Country Christmas 5.00 Close 6.00em Tiny Living 9.00 Why Me? 9.30 The Gordon Ellioff Show 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00 The Young and the Restless 11.55 Brookside 12.25pm Jimmy's 1.00 Cheap Brookside 12-2apir Jimmy 5 1.00 Chica; Och 1.30 Ready, Seady, Cook 2.05 Hart to Hert 3.00 Live at Three 4.10 Jerry Springer 5.00 Rotonds 5.50 Cheap Chic 6.20 Ready, Seady, Cook 7.00 Rescue 911 7.30 Mysteries, Megic and Mirácles 8.00 Adrenatin Junkes 9.00 Fili.Mt Evil in Clear River 11.00 Ser II the Crewn three 12.00 Chee

11,00 Set Life Down Under 12,00 Close 6.30am Paatuku Paatu 7.00 Jaagran 7.30 Business, Music 8.30 Rashat 9.00 Revathi 9.30 Health Show 10.00 Panvarian 11.00 Shahi Dawai 11.30 Baat Ban Jaye 12.00 Salash 12.30pm Rashat 1.00 Fil.N 4.00 Quiz Contest 4.30 On a Hat Trick 5.00 Amer Kathayen 5.30 Naya A.7 6.00 Hum Paanch 8.30 Pop Busters 7.00 Aap Ki Farmaish 7.30 Charo Cinema 8.00 News 8.30 Danasr

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 41

Dallas Cowboys drop out of play-off picture

SPORTS BOOKS 42

Times writers offer their pick from this year's crop



TUESDAY DECEMBER 16 1997

England Test captain off to Jamaica heartened by one-day successes in Sharjah

Atherton plays down rivalry with Hollioake

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

THE absentee captain absorbed the news from Sharjah yesterday with a detached protentment. Michael Atherton is comfortable with his decision to miss the Champions Trophy and delighted that England have reached the final without him, an eightrun victory over Pakistan yesterday preserving their 100 per cent record. But he is ready to return, refreshed by his longest break from cricket in several years and eager to resume control for the weighti-

er business of the new year. After a month of intensive training and individual net sessions with Graham Gooch, Atherton heads for Jamaica on

reconnaisance mission but for a Christmas holiday. Late next month, he will be back on the island for the first Test of a series that he passionately believes capable of giving him the greatest success of his captaincy tenure.

It bothers him not a jot that England may well now travel to West Indies as favourites. "I don't see that as disconcerting

or daunting," he said. "I would much prefer to go there with everyone in the country believing in us as much as

Even Atherton does not know what the limit of his command will be when the team leaves on January 3, but he is less troubled by the conundrum than most. If it is thought that the leadership of Adam Hollioake in Sharjah merits a show of continuity for the one-day internationals that end the West Indies tour. there will be no argument from Atherton. His only concern is that the issue should not be distracting; ideally, it should be determined before departure.

Rest has been good for Atherton. The stress, fatigue and lost perspective of late an eye on the brainteasing

summer, responsible for his unusual confusion over continuing as captain, has all been left behind. Yesterday, at home in Manchester but with run-rate permutations in Sharjah - India, West Indies and Pakistan all still have a

> Although he admits to "just a moment when I wished I was flying out there with them", there is no envy in Atherton's dissection. You sense he has gained far more from the rare taste of an English winter and that England will now benefit from his refocused mind.
> "I am full of optimism about

chance of meeting England in

the final on Friday - he

"I am ready for some cricket now," he said. "I've trained

hard, with the squad and by

myself and I've worked on my

batting with Goochie, who has

been a great help. There is no

more I can usefully do indoors and I'm looking forward to getting started in the Caribbean."

He is keen to lay to rest any

perception of rivalry between

Hollioake and himself. "Other

people have tried to build it up

but it just doesn't exist," he said. I was not available for

this trip and I'm pleased it has gone well for Adam. It's up to

the selectors to decide which of

us should captain the one-

dayers in the West Indies but

it would obviously be best to

cut short the speculation with

an early decision, if possible.

Shariah. It was a unit chosen specifically for a one-day event something we have not often been able to do before,

and the preparation was out-

standing. They have shown

the benefit of that and done

themselves full justice."

"I am not a bit surprised that the boys have done well in

tion and enthusiasm.

this tour," he said. "Always have been, really, but the events of the past month or so have obviously helped. There is a good feeling about our down, while the West Indies clearly have some problems.

"It was no surprise to me that they were well beaten in Pakistan, although the mar-gins were pretty big. Pakistan are a very good side, with match-winning bowlers, and West Indies simply aren't as strong as they were ten or 15

yesterday called for a delay in

the naming of Europe's Ryder

Cup captain until just weeks before the 1999 event in Brook-

line. Boston, saying that it is the only way of finding the

Montgomerie, whose half-point against Scott Hoch won the Cup at Valderrama three months ago, said: "We don't

need a captain until the event

starts. Why do we need one

during the qualification

system? He won't tell us what

to do at that stage.
"We don't have the likes of a

Hale Irwin, a Ben Crenshaw

or Tom Kite. The Americans

have a choice of ten or 12 of

that type of character. And,

while Sam Torrance and

Mark James spring to mind.

they want to play. It's a

terrible thing to take the

best man for the job.

England away to a good start, gave this ball from Wasim Akram the full treatment

Jones to undergo

operation today

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

GWYN JONES, the Wales towards the 1999 World Cup,

"Having said that, they are always a different proposition at home and, realistically, we haven't got an attack to com-pare with Pakistan's. I'm not getting carried away, and nor should anyone else, but it doesn't worry me if the bookmakers want to make us

that means you're finished as

a player. You could tell that it hurt Seve Ballesteros."

Ballesteros, whose passion-

ate if eccentric leadership

inspired Europe in his home

country of Spain, has ruled

himself out as captain in 1999, as has Bernard Langer, of Germany. Montgomerie wants a system where the likes

of Torrance and James could

attempt to qualify as a player,

but, if they didn't, could then

take on the captaincy.

Montgomerie sees himself

taking on the role in around

eight years, but could have a

rival for the captaincy when

Ireland stages the event in

2005. Ian Woosnam, a Ryder

Cup stalwart, said yesterday:

"I would love to captain

Europe in the future, ideally in

ireland in 2005."

Montgomerie calls

for captaincy delay

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

COLIN MONTGOMERIE captaincy and possibly accept

Sensibly, he prefers to keep his thoughts private on the West Indies captaincy dilemma - a genuine, potentially unpleasant rivalry between Courtney Walsh and Brian Lara - but Atherton smiles his acknowledgement of a relief that, just for now, it is England's opponents who are

captain, who sustained a

severe neck injury while play-

ing for Cardiff on Saturday.

is to have an operation today

at the University Hospital of Wales, in Cardiff, in whose

neurological department he

operation could aid his recov-

ery," a statement from the

hospital said yesterday. Jones,

25, suffered a significant spi-nal cord injury when he became involved in a ruck

during the Welsh League

game with Swansea and doc-

tors are cautious in predicting

the extent of his recovery.

Jones, himself a medical

student, who put his career on

hold for two years so that he

could concentrate on playing

for and leading his country

has been since the accident. "Gwyn Jones's medical team has advised that an stambling in the dark. "I have heard plenty of things about their situation but it is something I prefer to observe rather than comment upon," he said. "I can see it will be pretty interesting if they make Lara captain, though, when the first Test is on Walsh's home

diel not beenk his neck but

sustained compression lead-ing to significant weakness in

his arras and legs. There was a

degree of improvement during the 24 hours after the accident,

but whether there can be

further cause for optimism

remains to be seen.
Ron Davies, the Welsh Sec-

retary, yesterday sent a mess-

age of support to Jones's

family. "Gwyn is an inspira-tional leader who has always

shown great courage on the rugby field," Davies said. "I

know that it will be some time

before the full extent of his

injury is known, but Gwyn

and his family should be aware that the whole of Wales

offers its best wishes that he

Clohessy receiled, page 45

makes a full recovery."

Atherton will spend Christmas there, though as remote from cricket talk as he can achieve. He will play golf, lie on a beach and probably drink a rum or two. Next time he lands on Jamaica, it will be on serious business.

England victory, page 46

Hoddle set to visit Morocco en route to France

BY MATT DICKINSON

ENGLAND'S World Cup preparations are set to take them via Africa, with Glenn Hoddle, the coach, close to agreeing to take part in a four-team competition in Morocon. France and Belgium have already signed up alongside the host country for the tour-nament at the end of May. England are expected to follow

suit this week. The biggest incentive for England is the chance to face North African opposition, having drawn Tunisia in group G at the finals in France next summer. Morocco, who are in Scotland's group, would be ideal stand-ins, particularly as, like Tunisia, they qualified for the World Cup finals

John Gorman, Hoddle's assisant, said yesterday: "Playing Morocco would have benefits, both for the players to get used to the weather and for them to face a North African team and get to grips with different styles. No final decision has been made, but the possibility of playing in the tournament is being dis-

cussed."
England's other opponents in the run-up to the World Cup could be finalised this week. Hoddle is keen to play a team from South America and that is likely to see a Wembley fixture in February against either Chile or Colombia, despite the latter being drawn in England's group in France. The planned trip to the United States in March is looking less likely, although an alternative arrangement has yet to be confirmed.

Arsenal striker, will be involved in any of Hoddle's plans will be a topic of growing debate over the next few months. Wright was spo-ken to by police after his team's defeat against Blackburn Rovers on Saturday. when he shouted abuse at fans, and although no further action is likely, his frustration at his own lack of form is beginning to sour his relationship with the Arsenal supporters. Wright, 34, has more than two years left on his contract at Highbury, but Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, is busily scouring Europe to find a replacement.

Kendall's search, page 44



Atherton and Hollioake, sharing a joke at Trent Bridge last season, could share captaincy duties in West Indies

TIMESTWO CROSSWORD

No 1278

- ACROSS Bardic festival (10)
- 8 Widely liked (7) 9 Fetter: shop group (5)
- 10 Part to be played (4)
- 11 Disconnect (linked parts) 13 Pail (6)
- 15 Unelected admin body (6)
- 17 Hilltop path (S) 18 Trad. wisdom, knowledge
- 21 Throw out of house (5) 22 Stimulate finterests speed
- 23 Sporting-hero memorial building (4,2,4)
- 2 Motivate, drive (5)
- 5 Man of all work (8) 6 Expressionless (7)
- 8 (US) vote-buying funds (slang) (4.6)
- 12 On which the admired are placed (8)
- 14 Ungentlemanly: sounds like Jewish prayer (7) 16 Macbeth saw his ghost (6)

20 Brief moment (slang) (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1277 ACROSS: 1 Carbon 5 Card 8 Ward 9 Renounce 10 Foregone 11 Cord 12 Aye aye 14 Toledo 16 Wild 18 Code name 20 Flat spin 21 Curd 22 Word 23 Breath DOVN: 2 Anatomy 3 Budge 4 Narrow escape 5 Council 6 Recur 7 Inverted snob 13 Audited 15 Demerit 17 Igloo 19 Niche

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- DOWN
- 3 Mah-jong piece: one on wall, floor (4)
- 4 Bold (6)
- 7 Mother of Eliz. I (4.6)

- 19 Old rope libres (5)

believe that he is the last word in boxing, he will never achieve recognition until he wins over the American public. It is a difficult task because not only is he a foreigner, but Americans also have little interest in boxers from lighter divisions, believing only heavyweights and middleweights to be the stuff of icons. Even Julio Cesar Chavez, of Mexico, who was one of the greatest

aseem Hamed has taken a step in the right direction to establish

himself as one of the world's leading boxers. No matter how much his

friends and admirers in Britain might

outside the Hispanic communities. When Don King offered Chavez to HBO, the head of the television cable company, Seth Abraham, said that he was only interested in the welterweight if he could have Mike Tyson as well.

boxers of all time, appealed only to a few

Srikumar Sen watches the

world champion try to win over fans in New York

Abraham is reported to have said: "I'm not interested in the caboose without the locomotive." The same man has now given his full backing to Hamed, a featherweight, who will be defending his World Boxing Council championshop

against Kevin Kelley, of New York, at

Madison Square Garden on Friday. Hamed is the first Briton to head a promotion at the Garden since Ken Buchanan met Roberto Duran there 26 years ago. It is every boxer's dream to appear at the venue for the bouts of the great heavyweights, such as Joe Louis, Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier.

Garden is looking rosy for Hamed The main Garden holds 18,000; but Eric Gelfand, the venue's publicity direc-tor, said that if Hamed drew a crowd of 8,000 it would be a remarkable achievement. Gelfand expects 10,000. "That's a home run," he said, and puts it down to the marketability of Hasned. "As publicity material, Naz is as good as you get," Gelfand said. "He can never be an Ali and nothing can ever equal Ah's fight with Frazier in the Garden, but ... he is an exciting showman and, if he can produce in the ring anything like what he has done outside it, he has gut the goods." Hanned handles idmoelf well in tele-

vision interviews. When asked why HIBO were spending sailions to publicise an unknown lighter in the United States, Hamed said: "They have the confidence in me to be a rising star. I am destined to he a legend. They are looking at a longterm investment."

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